PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

The Twelfth Lok Sabha 1998-99

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Parliament of India is the supreme representative institution of our people. It occupies a pivotal position in the Indian polity. Over the years, it has come to truly reflect the hopes and aspirations of the people, which it represents, by discharging its multi-functional responsibilities *viz.*, representational, law-making, overseeing of administration and grievance ventilation.

The image of Parliament and its credibility as a representative institution depend largely on the role and functions of the members of both the Houses. Though our constitution has clearly specified the functions of both the Houses and treats them equally, the Lok Sabha has a decisive voice in financial matters. The present study provides an analysis of the business transacted by the Twelfth Lok Sabha during its short but eventful life span. This has been sought to be done by means of articles, statements and statistical tables supplemented by brief introductory notes. An attempt has also been made to present a comparative picture in respect of the background of the members of the previous Lok Sabhas as well as the work done by them *vis-a-vis* the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

It is hoped that the publication will be found useful particularly by parliamentarians, researchers, academics, media persons and all others who are engaged in the study of the working of parliamentary institutions and processes.

First Published : 2000

Price : Rs. 450/-

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

THE TWELFTH LOK SABHA

1998–1999

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

THE TWELFTH LOK SABHA

1998–99

A STUDY

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Compiled and edited by:

Members' Reference Service
Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi

Officers Associated with the Study

Shri	John Joseph,	*Joint Secretary*
Shri	M. Rajagopalan Nair,	*Director*
Shri	M.K. Dubey,	*Joint Director*
Shri	N.K.R. Kalingan,	*Deputy Director*
Dr.	B.C. Joshi,	*Research Officer*

© 2000, Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi

Price : Rs. 450/-

Hindi Version is also available.

Published under rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and printed by Shree Enterprises, New Delhi.

PREFACE

Parliament of India is the supreme legislative body and a living symbol of the freedom and sovereignty of the people. It occupies a pre-eminent and pivotal position in India's democratic polity. Parliament is a bicameral legislative body consisting of the President of India and the two Houses, namely, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). The Lok Sabha is directly elected as its members are elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage from territorial constituencies across the country, while the Rajya Sabha is an indirectly elected House. So far, thirteen Lok Sabhas have been elected.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998 following the General Elections held in February-March 1998. The House had its first sitting on 23 March 1998. The five-year term of the Lok Sabha would have expired on 22 March 2003. It was, however, dissolved on 26 April 1999 nearly four years ahead of the expiry of its term. This way the Twelfth Lok Sabha had the briefest ever tenure *vis-a-vis* any of its predecessor Lok Sabhas.

A socio-economic analysis of members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha reveals that 77 per cent of the members were graduates or with higher qualifications. A majority of members were agriculturists. 39.8 per cent of the members were new to Parliament. Around 24 per cent had previous experience only in State Legislature, while 18 per cent were just freshers, without any legislative experience whatsoever. The representation of women members in the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 8.1 per cent, their total number being 44.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha had, in all, four sessions covering a period of 165 days. The actual number of sittings of the House, however, was 88 lasting about 575 hours. Legislative matters comparatively dominated the business of the House taking 16.6 per cent of time. A total of 56 Bills were passed by both Houses and assented to by the President during the period of this Lok Sabha. The debate on economic and financial matters came next with 14.68 per cent of the time of the House. Motions claimed 10.45 per cent of the total time.

A recent development in the functioning of the Lok Sabha has been the frequent adjournments of the House due to interruptions/disorderly scenes. In the Twelfth Lok Sabha, this resulted in a loss of about 10.66 per cent of the time of the House as compared to 5.28 per cent in the Eleventh and 10 per cent in the Tenth Lok Sabha.

During its brief tenure of a little over 13 months, two Motions of Confidence in the Council of Ministers were discussed. These motions, moved by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee gave an opportunity to members, on each occasion, to discuss in detail the political, social and economic issues confronting the nation. While the first motion was carried, the second one was negatived by a single vote resulting in fall of the Government.

For the first time after Independence during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Union Finance Minister presented the General Budget for the year 1999-2000 at 11 a.m. on 27 February 1999 deviating from the long-standing tradition of presenting the Budget at 5 p.m. on the last working day of February each year.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was witness to the closing ceremony of the year-long Golden Jubilee celebrations of India's Independence which began on 15 August 1997 with the historic mid-night session of the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

The objective of this study is to provide an analysis of the work done by the Twelfth Lok Sabha in various areas. This is sought to be done by means of articles, statements and statistical tables supplemented by brief introductory notes. An effort has also been made to present a comparative picture of the background of members of the previous Lok Sabhas and the work done by them *vis-a-vis* those of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

We do hope that this publication will be found useful by researchers, legislators, media persons and all others interested in the study of parliamentary institutions and processes.

NEW DELHI;
October 1999

G.C. MALHOTRA,
Secretary-General,
Lok Sabha.

CONTENTS

PAGE

Preface ..... (i)

PART I—ARTICLES

1. Twelfth Lok Sabha—A General Survey 1

2. Public Accounts Committee—Functions and Achievements during Twelfth Lok Sabha 13

3. Parliamentary Committee on Estimates—Role, Functions and Working Procedure 18

4. Parliamentary Control over Public Sector—Role of the Committee on Public Undertakings 25

5. Parliamentary Control over Subordinate Legislation in India 31

6. Private Members' Business in Lok Sabha 40

7. Information Technology and Parliament 45

8. Parliament Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS)—An Overview 49

PART II—STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

1. **Constitution and Composition of Lok Sabha**

Reserved Seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; Programme of the Twelfth General Elections, General Elections to the Lok Sabha 1998—List of National Parties and Symbols; List of State Parties and Symbols; Names of the Unrecognised Political Parties Registered with the Election Commission; Number of Members Initially Elected/ Nominated; Strength of Political Parties; Language-wise Break up of the Number of Members who Made and Subscribed Oath or Affirmation; By-elections; Names of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Panel of Chairmen; Representation of Political Parties 65

2. **Duration and Sittings of Lok Sabha**

Dates of Commencement and Termination of the Sessions; Number and Duration of the Sittings of the Lok Sabha; Time Taken on Various Kinds of Business; Chronology of Important Events 80

3. **Members and Ministers**

Allocation of Seats to States and Union Territories; Distribution of Members by Age Groups; Educational Background of Members; Occupational Background of Members; Expenditure on Members; Names and Portfolios of Members of Union Council of Ministers; Leave of Absence to Members; Resignation of Members; Obituary References 91

PAGE

4. Questions

Session-wise Disposal of Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions; Disposal of Notices of Questions Received from Members; Ministry-wise Disposal of Questions; Maximum and Minimum Number of Questions Orally Answered on a Single Day; Total Number of Notices of Questions Received in Hindi; Questions Admitted (Member-wise Details) 110

5. Legislative and Financial Business

Volume of Legislation Passed; Analytical Chart Regarding Bills Passed; Enactments by Parliament (Arranged Subject-wise); Bills Referred to Joint/Select/Standing Committees; Ordinances Promulgated by the President; Financial Business Discussed; Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants; Budget in respect of States/UTs under President's Rule 131

6. Raising Matters of Public Importance

Dates of President's Address and Time Devoted on Discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's Address; Adjournment Motions; Motions of Confidence in the Council of Ministers; Notices of Calling Attention of Ministers to Matters of Urgent Public Importance; Discussions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance for Short Duration under rule 193; Discussions on Motions under Rules 191 and 342; Half-an-Hour Discussions; Resolutions Discussed; Matters Raised under Rule 377; Points of Order; Matters Raised after Question Hour and before taking up the Listed Business 150

7. Privilege Matters

Privilege Matters Raised 165

8. *Suo Moto* Statements/Papers Laid on the Table

Suo Moto Statements Made/Laid by Ministers under Rule 372; Papers Laid on the Table of the House 169

9. Parliamentary Committees

Activities of Parliamentary Committees 177

10. Parliamentary Conferences, Seminars, Symposia, etc.

Parliamentary Conferences/Meetings; Exchange of Parliamentary Delegations 191

11. Visitors to Parliament

Attendance in Different Galleries; Foreign Delegations/Dignitaries who Visited Parliament House 201

12. Orientation and Training in Parliamentary Procedures: Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training

Details of Orientation Programmes, Computer Training Programmes, Appreciation Courses, Training/Attachment Programmes, International Programmes, Study Visits, etc. 205

13. Parliamentary Museum and Archives

Items added to Parliamentary Museum and Archives 213

14. Editorial and Translation Service. 217

15. Sale of Parliamentary Publications

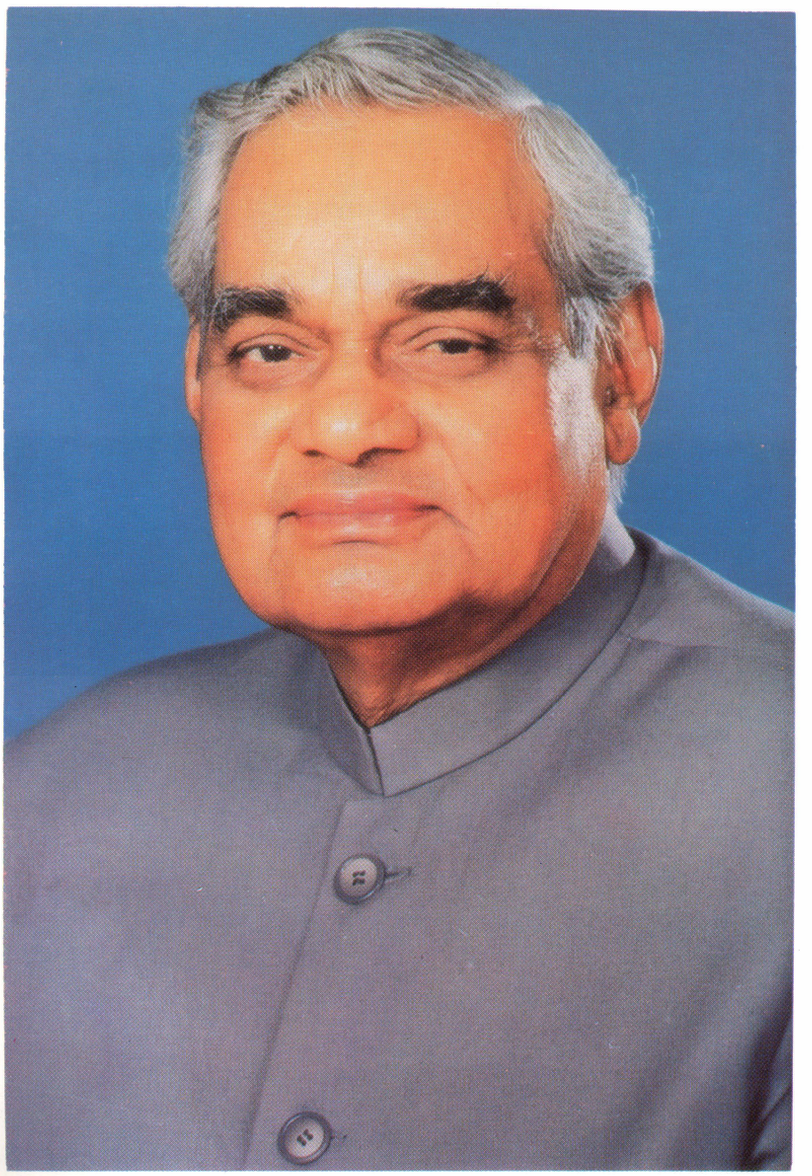
Sale of Parliamentary Publications/Papers and Budget Sets 220

Appendix

Seating Arrangement in Lok Sabha 223

Shri K. R. Narayanan
President

Shri Krishan Kant
Vice-President



Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
Prime Minister

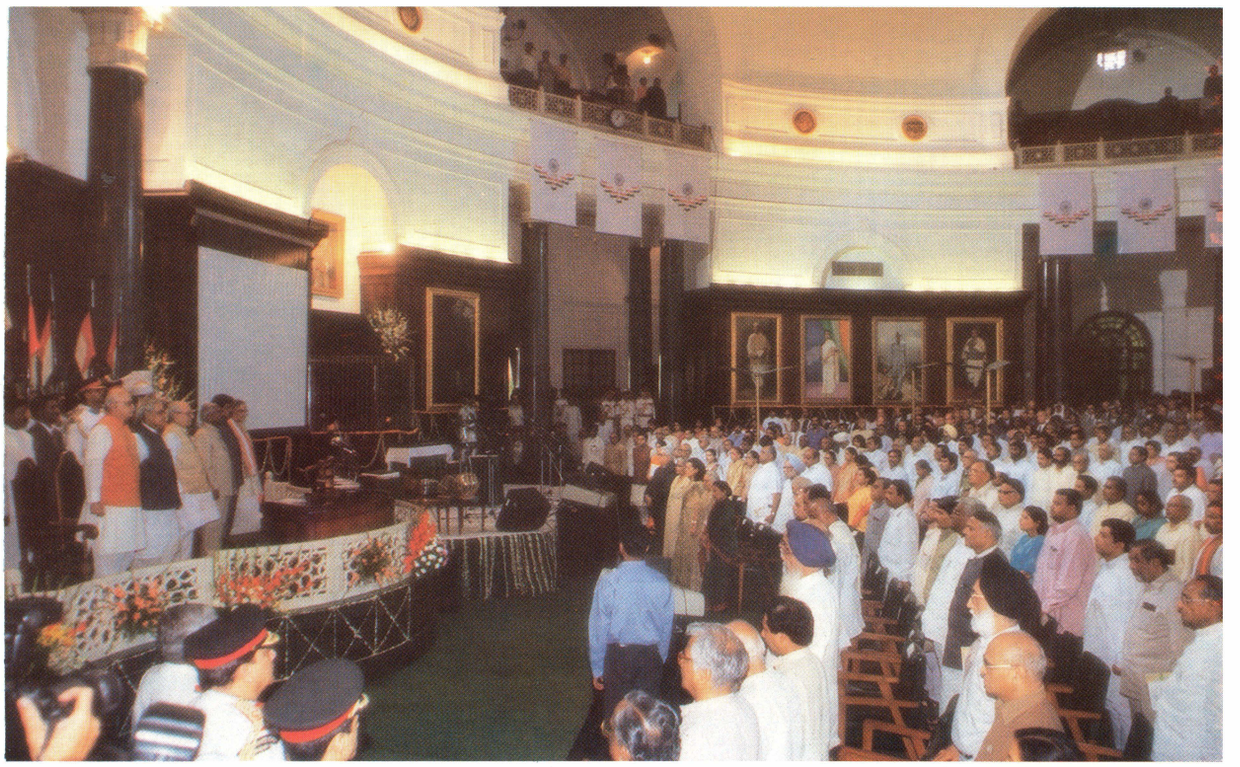
Shri G. M. C. Balayogi
Speaker, Twelfth Lok Sabha

Shri P. M. Sayeed
Deputy Speaker, Twelfth Lok Sabha

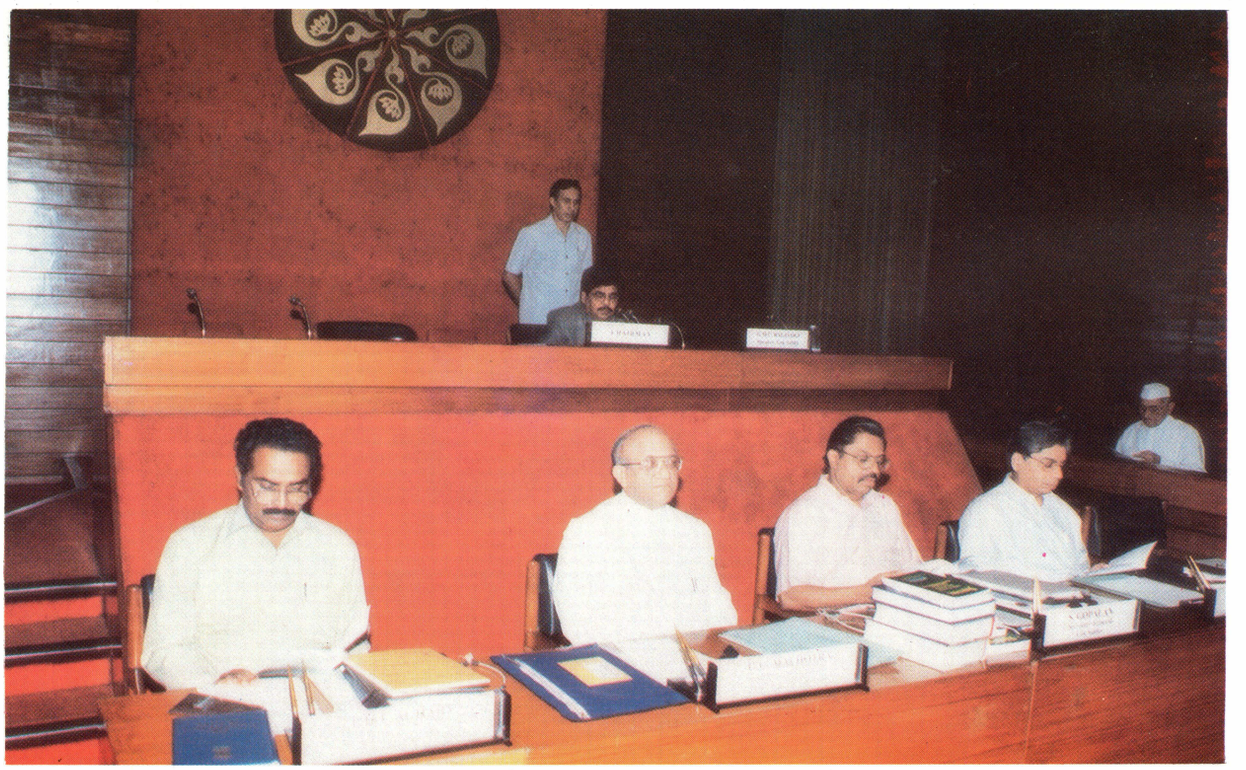
Shri S. Gopalan
Secretary-General

The President, Shri K. R. Narayanan arriving in procession to address
Members of Parliament on 22 February 1999

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi with the Leaders of Parties/Groups
at a luncheon party on 26 May 1998

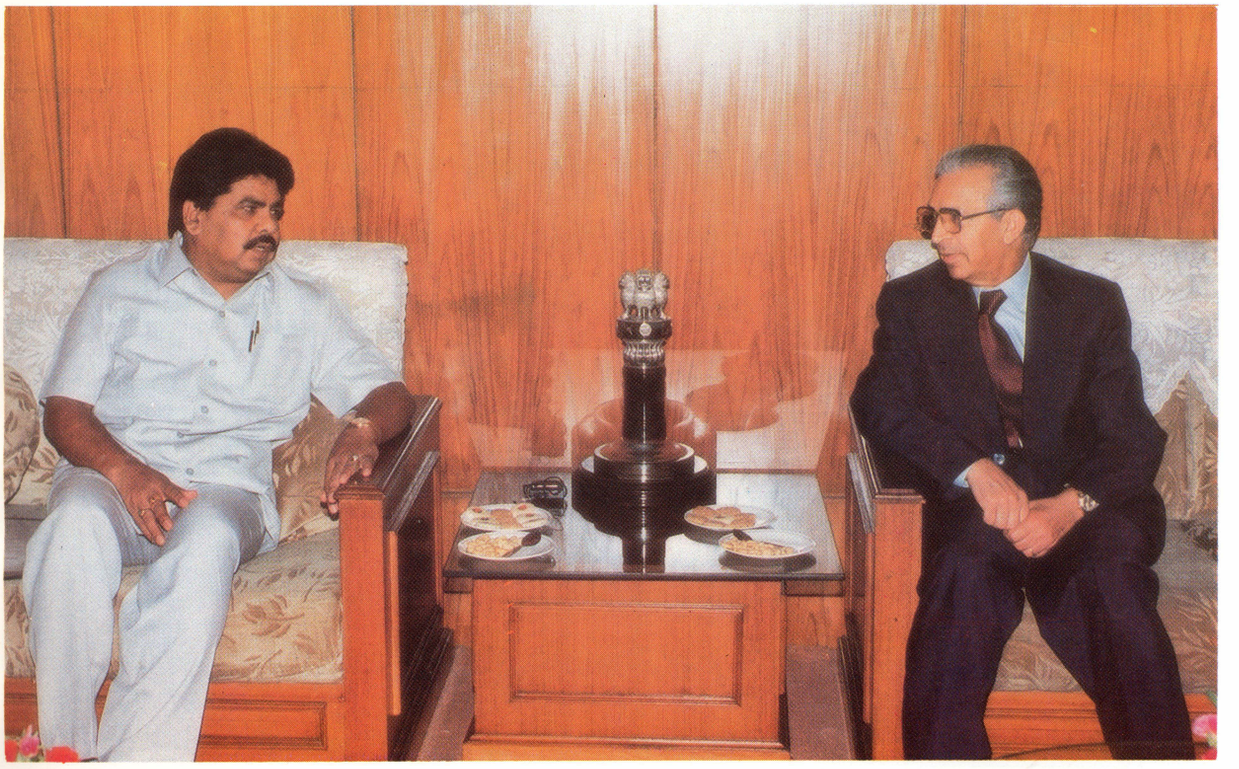


Distinguished gathering at the Closing Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence held in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 15 August 1998



The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi presiding over the Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies held in New Delhi from 22 to 24 September 1998

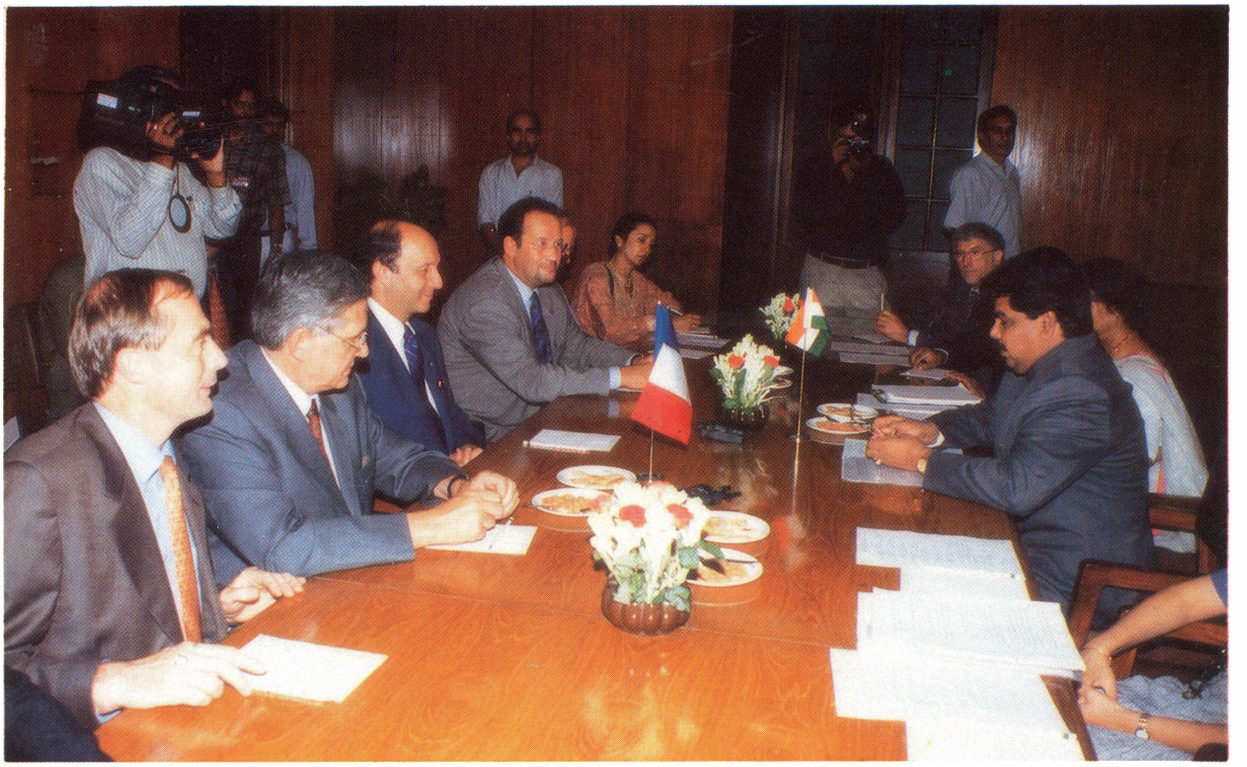
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi with the Presiding Officers of State Legislatures on the occasion of 62nd Presiding Officers Conference of Legislative Bodies held in New Delhi from 22 to 24 September 1998



Dr. Sa'adoon Hamadi, Speaker of the National Assembly of Iraq with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi in New Delhi on 26 May 1998

Mr. Pei Yuanying, Ambassador of the Peoples' Republic of China with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi in New Delhi on 23 June 1998

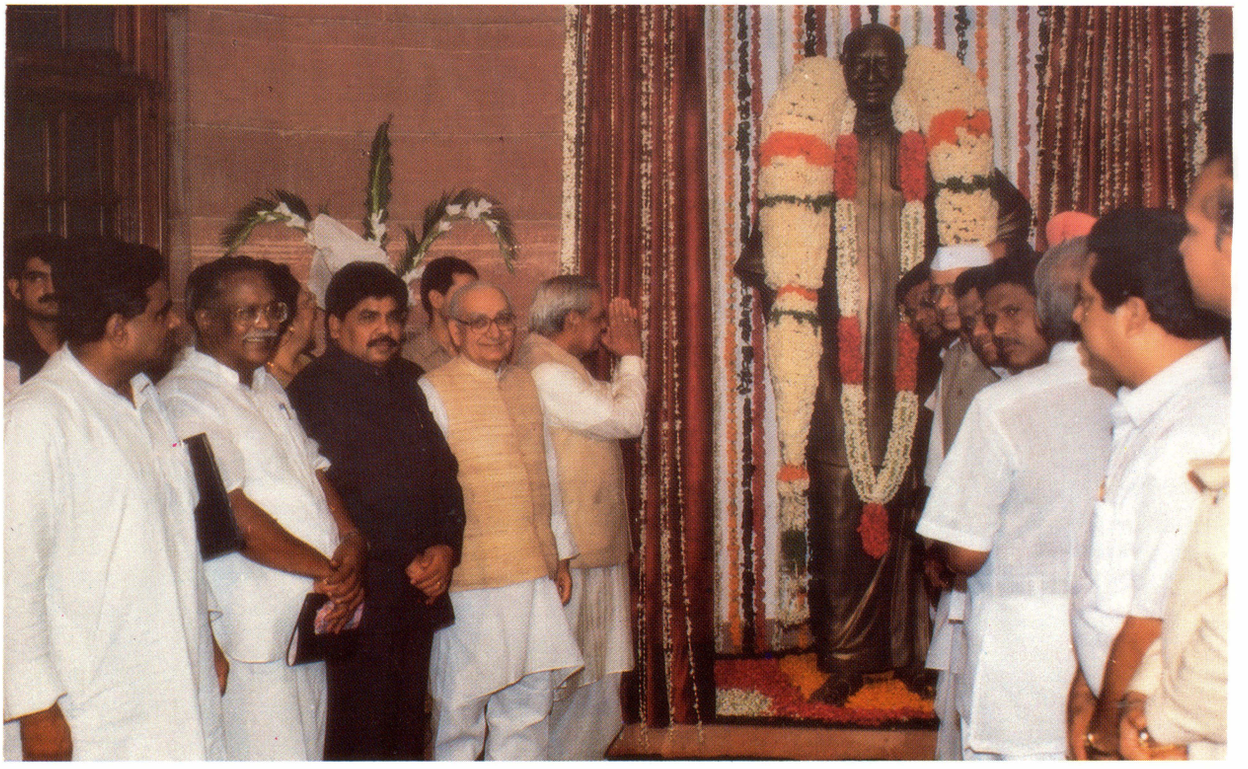
Mr. Laurent Fabius, Leader of the French Parliamentary Delegation with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi in New Delhi on 15 September 1998



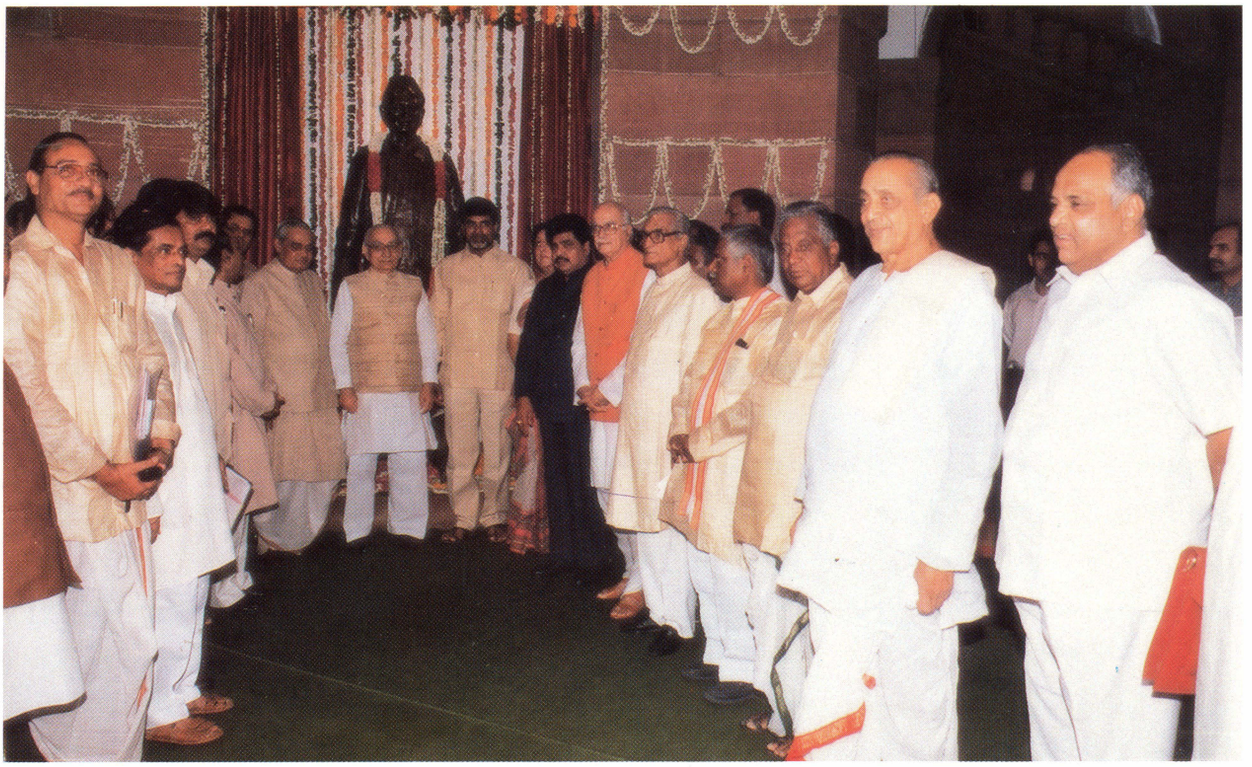
French Parliamentary Delegation with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi in New Delhi on 15 September 1998

Mr. Yevgeny Primakov, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi in New Delhi on 21 December 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi paying floral tributes at the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Parliament House Complex on 14 August 1998



Dignitaries at the unveiling of the statue of Shri K. Kamraj in Parliament House Complex on 15 July 1998



Dignitaries at the unveiling of the statue of Prof. N. G. Ranga
in Parliament House Complex on 27 July 1998

Dignitaries at the unveiling of the statue of Shri Birsa Munda in
Parliament House Complex on 28 August 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi lighting the lamp on the occasion of inauguration of the Exhibition "Indo-African Cooperation" held in Parliament House Annexe on 10 June 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi and other dignitaries having a view of the Exhibition "Democratic and Parliamentary Heritage of India" held in Parliament House Annexe on 9 July 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi and the Speaker of the State Duma of Russia, Mr. Gennady Seleznyov jointly inaugurated the Exhibition "History and Activities of Parliament of India" in the inner foyer of the Russian Duma in Moscow on 12 November 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi at the Orientation Programme for New Members of Twelfth Lok Sabha held in Parliament House Annexe from 9 to 22 July 1998

New Members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha attending the Orientation Programme held in Parliament House Annexe from 9 to 22 July 1998

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi; Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Gopalan and senior Officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat at the Orientation Programme for Members of Mizoram Legislative Assembly held in Parliament House Annexe from 21 to 23 April 1999

Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly attending the Orientation Programme held in Parliament House Annexe from 21 to 23 April 1999, with the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G. M. C. Balayogi

PART I

ARTICLES

1

TWELFTH LOK SABHA—A GENERAL SURVEY

Parliament of India is a bicameral legislative body consisting of the President of India and two Houses known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). Lok Sabha is a directly elected House and its members are drawn from amongst the common people. The normal term of the Lok Sabha is of five years. So far, twelve Lok Sabhas have been elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

After the Twelfth General Elections held in February-March 1998 under article 81 of the Constitution, the Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998 and the first sitting of the House was held on 23 March 1998. The five-year term of this Lok Sabha was to expire on 22 March 2003. It was, however, dissolved on 26 April 1999. There were in all four sessions of the House covering a period of 165 days. The number of days on which the House actually met was 88.

Election of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker

The election to the office of the Speaker took place on 24 March 1998 and Shri Ganti Mohana Chandra Balayogi of the Telugu Desam Party was elected as the Speaker of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Notably, the Twelfth Lok Sabha created history at the very beginning when for the first time a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes was elected as Speaker.

The election to the office of the Deputy Speaker was held on 17 December 1998 and Shri P.M. Sayeed of the Congress(I) was elected unanimously as the Deputy Speaker of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Leader of the House

Articles 74 of the Constitution lays down that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President in the exercise of his functions. The Leader of the House is defined in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha as "the Prime Minister, if he is a member of the House, or a Minister who is a member of the House and is nominated by the Prime Minister to function as the leader of the House."

The Leader of the House draws up the programme of official business to be transacted in a session of Parliament. He has the right to address the House whenever he likes. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Leader of the House from 19 March 1998 till his resignation as Prime Minister on 17 April 1999.

Leader of the Opposition

The Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977 defines the term 'Leader of the Opposition' as that member of the Rajya Sabha or the Lok Sabha, who, for the time being, is the Leader in that House of the Party in opposition to the Government, having the greatest numerical strength and recognised as such by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha or the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

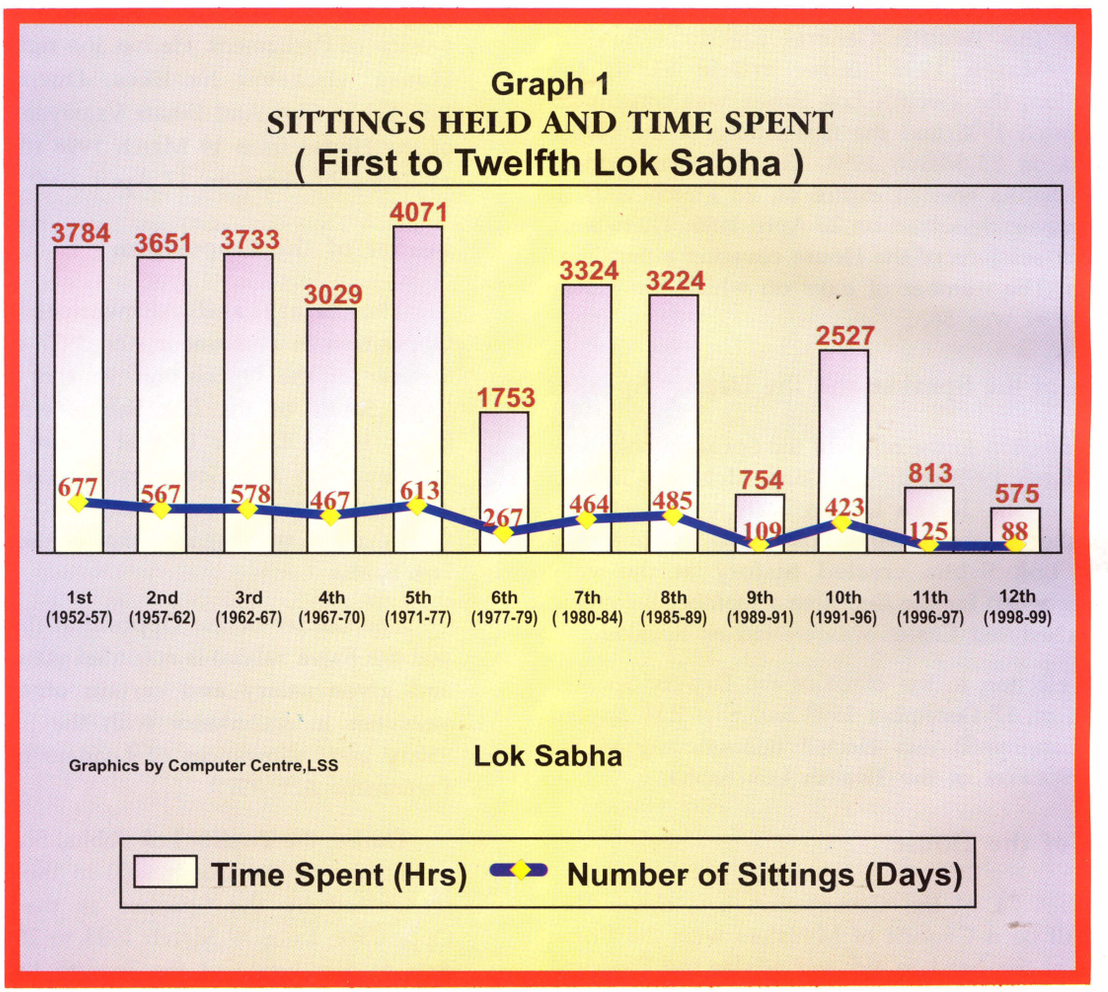
The Leader of the Opposition (in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha) is accorded statutory recognition and given salary and certain other facilities and amenities in accordance with the provisions of the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, Shri Sharad Pawar, the Leader of the Congress(I) in the Lok Sabha was recognised by the Speaker as the Leader of the Opposition from 19 March 1998 to 26 April 1999, the date of dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

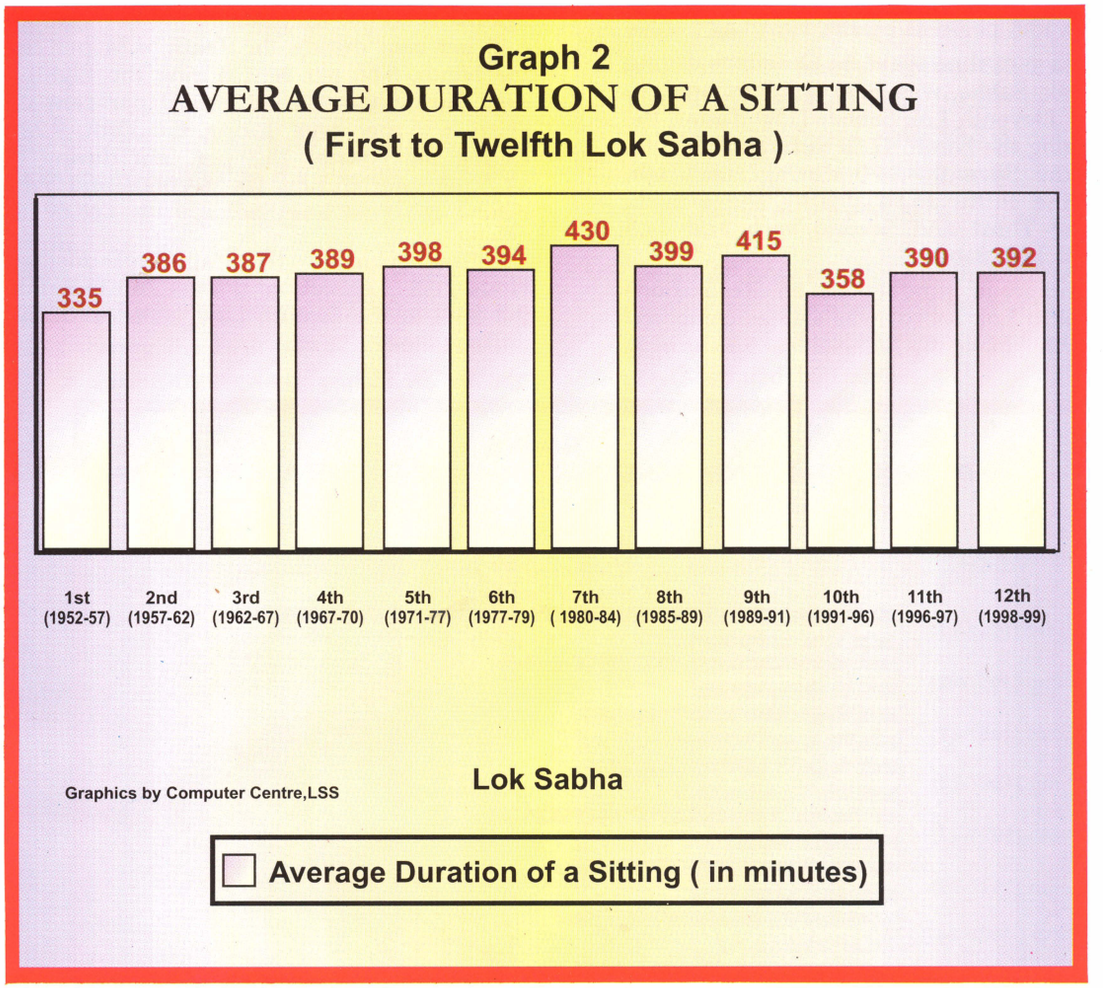
Sittings and Duration

Compared to the times of the Central Legislative Assembly and the Constituent Assembly (Legislative), there has been a marked increase in the number of actual sittings of the House and their duration from 1951 onwards, revealing an upward trend in the legislative and deliberative activities of Parliament. During the period 1929-1951, the average annual duration of the sittings was 69 days as against 121 days between the years 1952 and 1974. Though, the average annual sittings from 1975 to 1998 comes to 87 days only, the average duration per sitting was 6 hours and 37 minutes as compared to 6 hours and 24 minutes during 1952-1974 and 4 hours and 57 minutes during 1929-1951.

During its span, the Twelfth Lok Sabha held 88 sittings with a duration of approximately 575 hours as against 125 sittings with a duration of 813 hours during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 423 sittings with a duration of 2,527 hours during the Tenth, 109 sittings with a duration of 754 hours during the Ninth, 485 sittings with a duration of 3,224 hours during the Eighth; 464 sittings with a duration of 3,324 hours during the Seventh; 267 sittings with a duration 1,753 hours during the Sixth; 613 sittings with a duration of 4,071 hours during the Fifth, 467 sittings with a duration of 3,029 hours during the Fourth; 578 sittings with a duration of 3,733 hours during the Third; 567 sittings with a duration of 3,651 hours during the Second; and 677 sittings with a duration of 3,784 hours during the First Lok Sabha (see *Graph 1*).



The average duration of a sitting during the Twelfth Lok Sabha comes to 6 hours and 32 minutes as compared to 6 hours and 30 minutes of the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 5 hours and 58 minutes of the Tenth, 6 hours and 55 minutes of the Ninth, 6 hours and 39 minutes of the Eighth, 7 hours and 10 minutes of the Seventh, 6 hours and 34 minutes of the Sixth, 6 hours and 38 minutes of the Fifth, 6 hours and 29 minutes of the Fourth, 6 hours and 27 minutes of the Third, 6 hours and 26 minutes of the Second, and 5 hours and 35 minutes of the First Lok Sabha (see *Graph* 2).



President's Address

Under article 87(1) of the Constitution, the President addresses both Houses of Parliament assembled together. During the span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the President addressed both Houses of Parliament assembled together twice, *i.e.*, first, on 25 March 1998 at the commencement of the First Session after the constitution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha and second, on 22 February 1999 at the commencement of the first session of the year 1999 which otherwise was the Fourth Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. In both the cases, the matters referred to in the President's Addresses were discussed in detail on Motion of Thanks. The total time devoted to these discussions was 24 hours and 45 minutes or 4.30 per cent of the total time spent.

Time Spent on Various Kinds of Business

Of the total time spent by the Twelfth Lok Sabha, legislative business (excluding Budget) claimed 16.60 per cent as against 15.66 per cent by the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 22.16 per cent by the Tenth, 16.23 per cent by the Ninth, 25 per cent by the Eighth, 23.99 per cent by the Seventh, 23.51 per cent by the Sixth, 27.55 per cent by the Fifth, 22.08 per cent by the Fourth, 23 per cent by the Third, 28.2 per cent by the Second and 48.8 per cent by the First Lok Sabha.

The time devoted to discussions on Budgets* by the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 14.68 per cent of the total as against 17.60 per cent devoted by the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 17.36 per cent by the Tenth, 16 per cent by the Ninth, 21.74 per cent by the Eighth, 20.84 per cent by the Seventh, 23.26 per cent by the Sixth, 21.64 per cent by the Fifth, 19.30 per cent by the Fourth, 25 per cent by the Third, 20.9 per cent by the Second and 18.5 per cent by the First Lok Sabha.

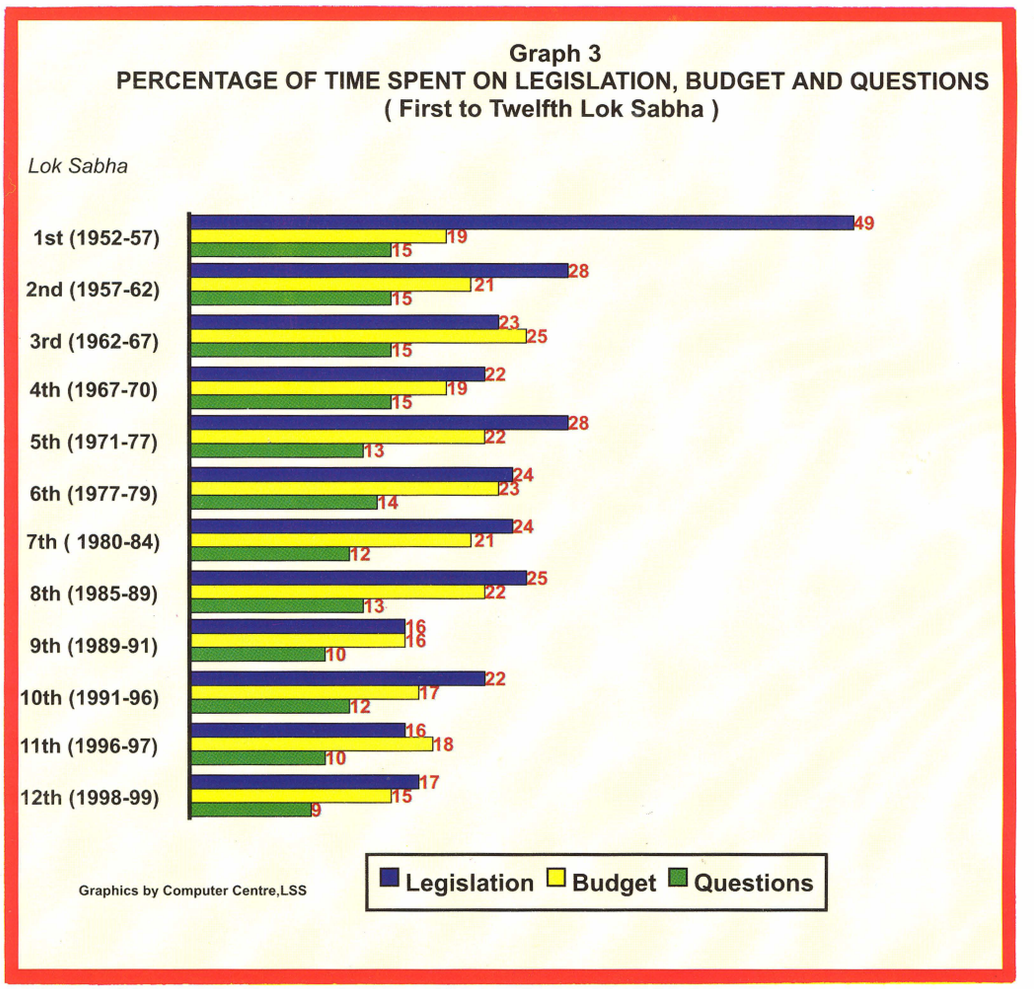
The percentage of time spent on Questions during the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 8.96 as compared to 9.58 during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 11.80 during the Tenth, 10.14 during the Ninth, 12.80 during the Eighth, 12.20 during the Seventh, 3.70 during the Sixth, 12.61 during the Fifth, 15.94 during the Fourth, 15.1 during the Third and Second each and 14.5 during the First Lok Sabha.

The percentage of time taken on Resolutions during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, was 4.45 as compared to 4.57 during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 6.23 during the Tenth, 5.77 during the Ninth, 5.47 during the Eighth, 3.96 during the Seventh, 3.72 during the Sixth, 5.17 during the Fifth, 6.45 during the Fourth, 5.9 during the Third, 5.5 during the Second and 6.3 during the First Lok Sabha.

The time spent on Motions during the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 10.45 per cent of the total time as against 17.33 per cent during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 6.38 per cent during the Tenth, 4.34 per cent during the Ninth, 3.66 per cent during the Eighth, 6.35 per cent during the Seventh, 10.70 per cent during the Sixth, 6.55 per cent during the Fifth, 9.22 per cent during the Fourth, 13.2 per cent during the Third, 13.7 per cent during the Second, and 7.1 per cent during the First Lok Sabha.

Time spent on the important business of the House, *viz.*, Legislation, Budget and Questions during the First to the Twelfth Lok Sabha as detailed above is illustrated in *Graph 3.*

Graph 3
PERCENTAGE OF TIME SPENT ON LEGISLATION, BUDGET AND QUESTIONS
(First to Twelfth Lok Sabha)



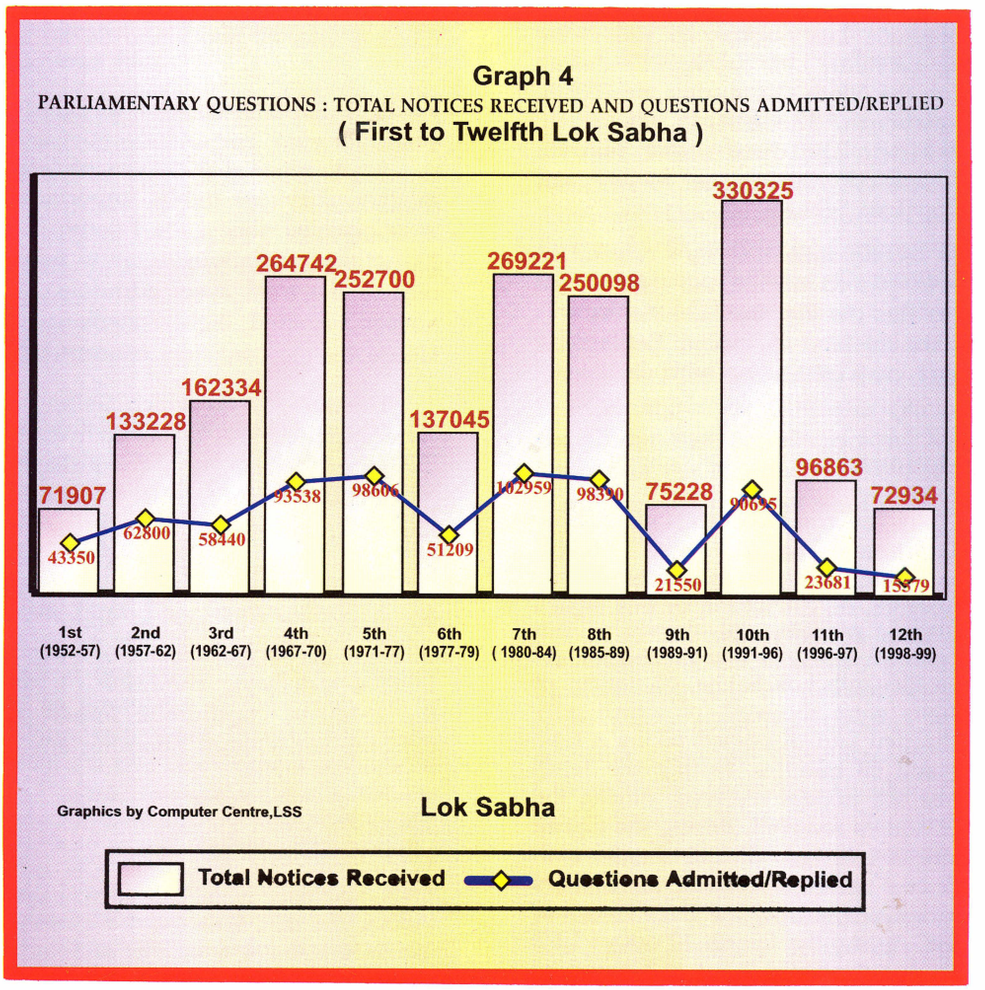
* Budgets include-General Budget, Railway Budget, Supplementary/Excess Demands for Grants and Budgets of States/Union Territories under President's rule.

A recent development in the functioning of the Lok Sabha has been the frequent adjournments of the House due to interruptions/disorderly scenes which have resulted in loss of about 10 per cent of the time of the House during the Tenth Lok Sabha, 5.28 per cent during the Eleventh Lok Sabha and 10.66 per cent during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Questions

A total of 72,934 notices of Questions were received from members during the Twelfth Lok Sabha as against 96,863 during the Eleventh Lok Sabha; 3,30,325 during the Tenth; 75,228 during the Ninth, 2,50,098 during the Eighth, 2,69,221 during the Seventh, 1,37,045 during the Sixth; 2,52,700 during the Fifth, 2,64,742 during the Fourth, 1,62,334 during the Third; 1,33,228 during the Second; and 71,907 during the First Lok Sabha. Out of the total notices received, 15,579 Questions representing 21.36 per cent of the total were admitted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. The corresponding figures for the Tenth, the Ninth, the Eighth, the Seventh, the Sixth, the Fifth, the Fourth, the Third, the Second, and the First Lok Sabha were 23,681 or 24.44 per cent; 90,695 or 27.45 per cent; 21,550 or 28.64 per cent; 98,390 or 39.34 per cent; 1,02,959 or 38.14 per cent; 51,209 or 37.35 per cent ; 98,906 or 39.02 per cent; 93,538 or 35.30 per cent; 58,440 or 35 per cent; 62,800 or 47 per cent and 43,350 or 61 per cent, respectively.

Total notices of Questions received and the number of Questions admitted and replied during each of the Lok Sabhas from the First to the Twelfth are illustrated in *Graph 4*.



Of the total Questions admitted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 14,217 or 91.26 per cent were Unstarred; 1,360 or 8.73 per cent were Starred; and only 2 or 0.01 per cent were Short Notice Questions.

The top five Ministries to whom the largest number of Questions were addressed were those of Finance (1,311); Railways (985); Agriculture (871); Home Affairs (803) and Human Resource Development (750).

Legislative Work

During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 56 Bills were passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President. Of these, 40 related to economic and financial subjects, important among them being those pertaining to banking, industry, transport, labour and appropriation of moneys. So far as legislative and parliamentary matters are concerned there were four enactments followed by three each on judicial and legal, and administrative and one on educational matters.

As regards previous Lok Sabhas, 61 Bills were passed during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 275 during the Tenth, 63 during the Ninth, 346 during the Eighth, 336 during the Seventh, 136 during the Sixth, 487 during the Fifth, 219 during the Fourth, 273 during the Third, 316 during the Second and 319 during the First Lok Sabha.

It was for the second time that no Constitution amendment Bill was passed during the tenure of a Lok Sabha. Prior to this the Eleventh Lok Sabha was the first one, in the history of Indian Parliament, during whose tenure, no Constitution amendment Bill was passed.

Adjournment Motions

During the span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 83 notices of adjournment motions were received. However, not even a single notice was brought before the House and therefore, no discussion in this regard took place on the floor of the House.

As regards the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 63 notices of adjournment motions were received, of which only one notice was admitted and discussed taking a total time of one hour and 58 minutes. During the Tenth Lok Sabha 4 out of 608 notices received, during the Ninth 9 out of 375 notices received, during the Eighth 4 out of 1805 notices received, during the Seventh 24 out of 5762 notices received, during the Sixth 6 out of 295 notices received, during the Fifth 10 out of 996 notices received, during the Fourth 12 out of 1078 notices received, during the Third 7 out of 776 notices received and during the Second 3 out of 1262 notices received were admitted and discussed. The figures relating to the First Lok Sabha are not available.

Motion of Confidence/No Confidence

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha no notice of Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers was received. However, two notices of Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers under rule 191 were received. Both the notices were given by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The first notice which was given by him soon after he formed the Government, was admitted and after a detailed discussion spreading over two days the Motion of Confidence was adopted on 28 March 1998. The Second notice given by Shri Vajpayee when he was directed by the President to seek a vote of confidence in the Council of Ministers, was also admitted but negatived on 17 April 1999 after a long discussion spreading over three days from 15 to 17 April 1999. The time involved in the discussions on these two motions was 42 hours and 54 minutes.

Calling Attention Notices

As many as 424 notices of Calling Attention on matters of urgent public importance under rule 197 were received during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Of these 33 notices on various subjects representing 7.78 per cent of the total, were admitted. In response to the notices admitted, eight Statements were made in the House by the Ministers concerned*.

The subjects on which Calling Attention Notices were admitted and taken up were—import of exotic dangerous wheat from Australia; shortage of SOP, 20.20.050 Mixture and Potash in the State of Karnataka; difficulties being faced by rubber growers in the country; non-payment of salaries and other statutory dues to the employees of some public sector undertakings; burning of some tribal women and children in Purnia district of Bihar on 14 December 1998; deteriorating condition of internal security in the country; continuous import of sugar by the Government without imposing any levy on imported

* In all there were eleven subjects on which Calling Attention Notices were admitted. Two or more were received on each of these subjects. Statements were made by the Ministers concerned only in the case of eight subjects, as one subject during the Third Session and two during the Fourth Session could not be taken up due to interruptions followed by adjournment of the House.

sugar thereby causing great hardship to the domestic producers; killing of 22 Hindus by the extremists in Jammu region; and Government's decision to close down eight public sector undertakings in the country.

Motions

Several discussions on matters of urgent public importance were raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha through motions under rule 191 (No-day-yet-named Motions); rule 342 (for taking into consideration a policy or a situation or a statement or any other matter); rule 193 (Short Duration Discussions on matters of urgent public importance) and rule 55 (Half-an-Hour Discussions on matters of sufficient public importance arising out of answers to Questions).

Fifteen Short Duration Discussions under rule 193 were held. Besides, two motions (both relating to expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers) under rule 191 and two under rule 342 were discussed. The number of Half-an-Hour Discussions held under rule 55 was four.

Some of the important discussions raised under rule 193 related to—Pokhran Nuclear Tests, incidents of suicides committed by farmers in various parts of the country, rise in prices of essential commodities, floods in various parts of the country, insurgency in North-Eastern Region, problems of SCs and STs and atrocities on minorities.

Resolutions

In all, 29 resolutions were discussed during the Twelfth Lok Sabha as against 33 during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 122 during the Tenth, 34 during the Ninth, 83 during the Eighth, 110 during the Seventh, 36 during the Sixth, 140 during the Fifth, 79 during the Fourth, 84 during the Third, 83 during the Second and 67 during the First Lok Sabha. Out of the 29 resolutions taken up by the Twelfth Lok Sabha, five were Government resolutions; 22 were statutory resolutions moved in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution and two were Private Members' resolutions. While all the five Government resolutions were adopted, one resolution moved by a Private Member was withdrawn and another partly discussed. So far as statutory resolutions are concerned, only three were adopted, six were negatived, twelve were withdrawn and discussion on one resolution was postponed and ultimately it could not be taken up due to dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Activities of Standing Parliamentary Committees

Indian Parliament transacts a great deal of its business and ensures executive accountability through a network of committees. In all, there are 45 standing parliamentary committees of which 24 are Joint Committees of the two Houses—the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The remaining 21 are single House Committees, of which 9 belong to the Rajya Sabha and 12 to the Lok Sabha. As regards Joint Committees, at present there are 17 Departmentally Related Standing Committees (11 serviced by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and 6 by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat) and seven other Committees, namely, (i) the Committee on Public Accounts, (ii) the Committee on Public Undertakings (both Financial Committees), (iii) the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, (iv) the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit, (v) the Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament, (vi) the Library Committee and (vii) the Committee on Empowerment of Women. Members from both the Houses serve on these Committees.

Of the 21 single House Committees, 9 each in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha have similar functions in the respective Houses. They are—Business Advisory Committee, Rules Committee, General Purposes Committee, Committee of Privileges, Committee on Petitions, Committee on Government Assurances, Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and House Committee. The remaining three Committees, namely, the Committee on Estimates (Financial Committee), the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House, and the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions exist only in the Lok Sabha.

Though each and every Committee has its own role to play in the working of Parliament, there are certain committees which, by undertaking the task of detailed scrutiny of governmental spending and performance, assist the House in its principal task of ensuring executive accountability. This category of Committees include—all the three Financial Committees, all the 17 Departmentally Related Standing Committees and the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Performance of these Committees during the Twelfth Lok Sabha is briefly detailed in the paragraphs that follow.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the three Financial Committees, namely, the Committee on Public Accounts, the Committee on Estimates and the Committee on Public Undertakings held 56 sittings of about 87 hours duration and presented 22 reports.

The Committee on Public Accounts held 26 sittings of about 48 hours duration. The Committee constituted 5 Sub-Committees/Study Groups and visited 52 establishments/organisations during its study tours. The Committee presented 11 reports.

The Committee on Estimates held 9 sittings of about 12 hours duration. The Committee did not constitute any Sub-Committee/Study Group. It, however, visited 53 establishments/organisations during its study tours and presented 5 reports.

The Committee on Public Undertakings held 21 sittings of about 27 hours duration. This Committee did not constitute any Sub-Committee/Study Group. It, however, visited 9 establishments/organisations during its study tours and presented 6 reports.

Another important Committee, namely, the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held 19 sittings of about 31 hours duration. The Committee constituted one Sub-Committee and visited 33 establishments/organisations during its study tours. The Committee presented 9 reports.

The eleven Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) one each on—Agriculture; Communications; Defence; Energy; External Affairs; Finance; Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution; Labour and Welfare; Petroleum and Chemicals; Railways; and Urban and Rural Development, working under the direction of the Speaker, Lok Sabha@, held as many as 341 sittings in about 683 hours duration and presented 154 reports on Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments and other allied subjects.

Constitution of Ad-hoc Committees

In addition to the Standing Committees, ad-hoc Committees are also constituted from time to time either by the House on a motion adopted in that behalf or by the Speaker to inquire into and report on specific subjects. Ad-hoc Committees are also appointed on a motion made in the House to consider and report on a specific Bill.

During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha two ad-hoc Committees, namely, the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme and the Joint Committee on the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 were constituted. These Committees, however, could not complete their tasks due to paucity of time as the Twelfth Lok Sabha was prematurely dissolved.

Parliamentary Conferences, Seminars, Symposia etc.

Exchange of ideas and sharing of experiences by those involved in the working of parliamentary institutions have their obvious utility and value. Recognising this, Parliament in India has, through various means *viz.*, conferences, seminars, symposia etc., sought to develop and maintain close and continuing links with legislatures within the country and other parts of the world. It has now become a regular feature to hold conferences, seminars, symposia, etc., at national as well as international levels on select subjects of importance from the standpoint of parliamentary practice and procedure as also the primacy of parliamentary institutions.

During the brief tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha two Parliamentary Conferences were held at the national level. The first was the 62nd Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India held at New Delhi from 22 to 24 September 1998*. The Conference was presided over by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and it was attended by the Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India. The points on the Agenda discussed by the Conference were, (i) Need to review the working of the Anti-Defection Law contained in the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution; and (ii) Need for procedural reforms and better management of the time of the House.

The 62nd Conference of Presiding Officers was followed by a Symposium on 'Electoral Reforms' on

@In addition to these eleven DRSCs, there are six more such Committees—one each on Commerce, Home Affairs, Human Resource Development, Industry, Science & Technology and Environment & Forests, and Transport & Tourism working under the direction of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

* The first such Conference was held in Delhi on 14 September 1921 under the Chairmanship of the President of the Central Legislative Assembly, Sir Frederick Whyte. In recent years it has become an annual feature and now the Conference is held at different State capitals by rotation. It provides a valuable forum where experiences can be shared and procedural problems thoroughly discussed. The 62nd Conference was held at New Delhi from 22 to 24 September 1998.

24 September 1998. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi presided over the symposium and delivered the opening Address. The Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India and members of Parliament participated in the Symposium.

Another conference at the national level was the Conference of Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India which was also held at New Delhi. As it generally precedes the Conference of Presiding Officers, the last such Conference was held on 21 September 1998 on the eve of the 62nd Conference of the Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India.

Though no international parliamentary conference was held in India during the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, a number of Indian Parliamentary delegations, most of them led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, attended various Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Conferences, Conferences held under the auspices of the IPU, Conferences of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), CPA Seminars and workshops held during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Three IPU Conferences* (99th, 100th and 101st) were attended by the Indian Parliamentary delegations each led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The 99th IPU Conference, held in Windhock (Namibia) from 6 to 11 April 1998, discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the subjects of international interest such as—Problems of the countries emerging from war, Action to combat HIV/ AIDS Foreign debt to Third World countries and Situation in Kosovo. The 100th IPU Conference held in Moscow (Russian Federation) from 6 to 12 September 1998 mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the subjects such as Promotion and protection of Human Rights in the 21st Century, Management of water resources for sustainable development, Action to combat the consumption and illicit trafficking of drugs, International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Court and anti-personnel mines. The 101st IPU Conference held at Brussels (Belgium) from 10 to 16 April 1999 mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/ Resolutions on the subjects *viz.*, Encouraging all countries to sign and ratify CTBT for eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons, Problems of metropolitan areas and Writing off the government debt of heavily indebted poor countries.

* The IPU is an association of Parliamentary Groups constituted within the various National Parliaments for the purpose of promoting personal contacts between members of different Parliaments to secure and maintain full participation of their respective countries in the development of democratic institutions. Since 1982, the IPU has been holding Conferences twice a year. Before it, the IPU used to meet once a year.

Apart from the above, two more conferences held under the auspices of the IPU were attended by the Indian Parliamentary delegations. These were—(i) Inter-Parliamentary Conference on `Attaining the World Food Summit's Objectives through a Sustainable Development Strategy' held at Rome (Italy) from 29 November to 2 December 1998 as a parliamentary follow-up to the commitments undertaken by the States at the 1996 World Food Summit; and (ii) Tripartite Meeting of the Parliaments, Governments and Inter-Governmental Organisations held at New York from 30-31 March 1999 to take stock of the action taken by the Parliaments since the Social Development Summit held at Copenhagen (Denmark) in 1994.

During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, Indian Parliamentary delegation also attended the 44th Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association held at Wellington (New Zealand) from 16 to 23 October 1998. Besides, two CPA Seminars and three other workshops/conferences held under the auspices of the CPA were also attended by the Parliamentary delegations from India.

Research and Reference Services to Members

As in the previous Lok Sabhas, members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha continued to be assisted by the Parliament Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS). The Service rendered assistance to members by making them available authentic, non-partisan and authoritative information, so vital for any Parliament to deliberate, discuss and take decisions.

Important publications brought out during the Golden Jubilee Year (August 1997 - August 1998) were `Speaker of Lok Sabha', `India and Human Rights' and `Honouring National Leaders : Statues and Portraits in Parliament Complex'.

From time to time, well documented and exhaustive Backgrounders and Information Bulletins on subjects before the House were also brought out and made available to members to facilitate purposeful debate. Besides, relevant information was supplied in response to as many as 5949 reference requests from the members of both the Houses during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Modernisation of Information Services

Computerised Information Services : To keep pace with the rapid strides in information technology,

Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS) made a beginning in the field of Computerised Information Service with the establishment of a Computer Centre in 1987. PARLIS database is designed to cater to instant reference needs of members of Parliament, officers of Parliament, Committees, research and reference personnel and others. The information stored in the computer and the data currently available for on-line retrieval relate to : (i) Select Parliamentary Questions (indexes) from 1985; (ii) Parliamentary Debates (indexes) from 1985; (iii) bio-data of members of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha from 1985; (iv) Government and Private Members' Bills (indexes) from 1985; (v) Council of Ministers from 1952; (vi) President's Rule in States and Union Territories from 1951; (vii) Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections from 1952; (viii) by-elections to Lok Sabha, since 1952; (ix) obituary References since 1926; (x) catalogues of publications available in Parliament Library (since 1992); (xi) indexes of important articles selected for Parliamentary Documentation; (xii) Constituent Assembly Debates; (xiii) names of members of Constituent Assembly; (xiv) Directions, Decisions and Observations from the Chair; and (xv) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

Apart from the above, indexes of important articles published in newspapers, journals and publications of national and international organisations are also available for on-line retrieval. Subject bibliographies and select lists of publications on various subjects are provided to members on request.

Communication Linkage : Parliament Library is presently linked with the National Informatics Centre's satellite-based network known as NICNET. As NICNET is linked with capitals of all States and District Headquarters of the country, we are able to exchange messages and other information with State Legislatures and District Headquarters. NICNET is also connected with major international networks making it possible to have interchange of information with Foreign Legislatures and access to international databases.

Parliament of India Web page on INTERNET : The `Parliament of India Home Page' on world-wide web site of INTERNET became operational on 15 March 1996 and with the help of it the information contained in various important documents of Indian Parliament, which till now existed in printed form, is being converted to electronic one so that people across the globe can have access to them.

Microfilming of Documents : In order to make optimum utilisation of the existing space in the Parliament Library and also for better preservation and future use of valuable collections of the Library, a Microfilming Unit was set up in 1987 with the acquisition of latest available models of microfilming equipments and ancillaries. The unit is now fully functional and provides facilities for computer-assisted retrieval of information from the microfilmed documents. Microfilms of documents are easily accessible to members and to all those interested in them. For this one microfilm reader-cum-printer has been installed in the Parliament Library (Ground Floor).

Audio-Visual Unit : As part of modernisation of Library and Information Service, an Audio-Visual Unit, with a Viewing Room, has been set up in Parliament House. Facilities for viewing/listening to video records of Lok Sabha debates, proceedings of International Parliamentary Conferences/Seminars, Parliamentary Films and Linguaphone Courses are available to members of Parliament. The Unit also caters to the demands for video cassettes of Lok Sabha debates and parliamentary events and functions from members of Parliament. The proceedings of Lok Sabha, parliamentary films and other events are also shown to dignitaries from India and abroad.

Televising of Parliamentary Proceedings : Televising of select parliamentary proceedings commenced for the first time with the live telecast of the Address by the President to the members of both the Houses on 20 December 1989. During the Tenth Lok Sabha the question of televising of parliamentary proceedings received an added impetus. Consequently, there has been regular telecasting of the Question Hour (since 1991), Railway and General Budgets (since 1992), and debates/discussions on "Motion of Thanks on President's Address", Demands for Grants, No-Confidence Motion and Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers (since 1992). A Telecasting Unit has also been set up in Parliament House to coordinate with Doordarshan/All India Radio and other official agencies for the telecast/broadcast of—parliamentary proceedings, national and international conferences/seminars and other parliamentary functions held in Parliament House precincts and elsewhere. This Unit makes all necessary arrangements for effective and uninterrupted telecasting/ broadcasting by providing infrastructural and other assistance to the concerned agencies. TV sets have also been provided in the rooms of dignitaries, party offices and certain common areas, to facilitate the

viewers in watching the live proceedings of Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha.

In order to telefilm and telecast live the complete proceedings of Parliament in a better manner, a modern Robotic Camera System and studio has been set up in Parliament House which became operational from the Winter Session of Parliament in November 1997. Under the new Robotic Camera System there are eight robotic cameras using superior technology and operated by remote control from the state-of-the-art studio set up in Parliament House. They cover all areas of the Chamber including those which were difficult to access earlier.

Besides, in order to keep members posted with the latest developments in the country and abroad, particularly during the sessions of Parliament, English, Hindi and Urdu teleprinters fed by national news agencies, have also been installed in Parliament House.

Computer Facility to Members of Parliament

Keeping in view the immediate information requirements of parliamentarians, a beginning was made during the Tenth Lok Sabha to provide computer facilities to them at their residences/work places. Since then, the members of Lok Sabha are provided with a Note-Book or a Desk-Top computer having fax/modem card alongwith a printer. A user-friendly menu-driven software under Windows environment is made available to assist the members in areas such as constituency management functions, personal information management, office automation activities, parliamentary activities interaction system and accessing the Parliament Library Information System. This helps the members to get instant and up-to-date information on a wide range of activities in organising their office activities, having a quick and accurate information on legislative and parliamentary matters, etc., on their desks.

Besides, in order to provide on-line services such as E-mail facility and access to the Parliament databases, other government databases and databases of foreign legislatures to the members, a central computing facility has been developed at Parliament House which is connected to NICNET. Now the members of Parliament can have access to computerised information available at the Computer Centre at Parliament House from their residences/ work places through their personal computers.

Training Courses and Programmes

With a view to ensuring smooth, efficient and prompt services to Parliament and State Legislatures, the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training was set up in January 1976, as an integral part of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Bureau organised 7 Orientation Programmes for newly-elected members of the Lok Sabha and members of the State Legislative Assemblies. The Bureau also conducted fourteen Appreciation Courses for the probationers of various All India and Central Services; thirteen Training Programmes for the officers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats; eleven Attachment Programmes (one for officers of State Legislature Secretariats, two for members of foreign Parliaments, seven for foreign participants attending various programmes and one for fellows of Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies); two International Training Programmes for Foreign Parliamentary Officials; and two Computer Training Programmes for the officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Besides, the Bureau nominated the officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for training abroad as well as for training at different institutions in India.

During the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Bureau also organised 53 Study Visits from India and abroad comprising 1864 participants with a view to enabling them to have a glimpse of the working of Indian Parliament. In all, 4,383 participants were benefited by the training programmes/study visits conducted by the Bureau during the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA)

In 1984, the Lok Sabha Secretariat set up an institution, namely, Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA) with the basic aim of preserving the past and the present for the future by protecting from the ravages of time and neglect all the previous records, historic documents and articles connected with the Constitution and the Parliament, and through them to make the history and growth of Indian Parliamentary institutions and the political system better understood.

From time to time, the Parliamentary Museum and Archives, in cooperation with other Government agencies, organises for members of Parliament and the general public exhibitions on varying themes,

mostly connected with the functioning and achievements of Parliament. During the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha two exhibitions each at the national and international levels were organised. The national level exhibitions were–(i) exhibition on 'Democratic and Parliamentary Heritage of India' organised at Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi from 6 to 10 July 1998 on the occasion of the Orientation Programme for new members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha; and (ii) exhibition on 'Democracy at Work' also organised at Parliament House Annexe from 22 to 25 September 1998 on the occasion of Presiding Officers' Conference.

At the international level, the first ever exhibition organised by the PMA was on 'Indo-African Cooperation'. It was organised at Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi from 10 to 19 June 1998 at the request of the 'Organisation of African Unity' and with the assistance of member countries of the Organisation. Besides, as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence, an exhibition on 'History and Activities of Parliament of India' was organised by the PMA in the Inner Lobby of the State Duma, Moscow from 12 to 25 November 1998. It was jointly inaugurated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi and the Speaker of the Russia State Duma, Mr. Gennady Selezuyov on 12 November 1998. It was a maiden attempt made by the PMA to organise an exhibition in any foreign country.

The PMA has been enriched with various types of collections which *inter-alia* include–models(24), photographs (9,016), audio-cassettes (38), video-cassettes (143), portraits (27), books (294), commemorative stamps (1018), documents/private papers/ correspondence of eminent Parliamentarians (33150), commemorative coins (9), spool tapes (1539) and gift items (124). During the brief period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, seven portraits, 377 photographs of Parliamentary activities, 43 books and 5200 documents/private papers of eminent parliamentarians were added to the Parliamentary Museum and Archives.

Other Notable Events

(i) Closing Ceremony of 50th Anniversary of India's Independence

The year-long Golden Jubilee Celebrations of India's Independence began on 15 August 1997 with a mid-night session of the Eleventh Lok Sabha and by the time it drew to close, the Twelfth Lok Sabha had come into existence. The closing function of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations was held on 15 August 1998 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. During the function, the Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India presented an audio-visual display of India's achievements during the last fifty years. The entire programme was telecast and broadcast live throughout the country.

(ii) Honouring National Leaders

The history of our parliamentary democracy, in a way, has been inextricably linked with Parliament House and its historic Central Hall. The precincts of the Parliament House have statues and busts of stalwarts from our history. During the periods of first eleven Lok Sabhas statues of several eminent freedom fighters and makers of modern India were installed in the precincts of Parliament House, the most prominent among them include–the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi; first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru; Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant; Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; Maulana Abul Kalam Azad; Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar; former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi; former Deputy Prime Ministers, Shri Yashwantrao Balwantrao Chavan and Babu Jagjivan Ram; and eminent parliamentarian and freedom fighter Pandit Ravishankar Shukla. During the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha the statues of four more illustrious sons of India–Shri K. Kamaraj, Professor N.G. Ranga, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Shri Birsa Munda were installed in Parliament Complex.

Summing Up

The Twelfth Lok Sabha, had a short but eventful tenure. Much business could not be transacted as the House was dissolved on 26 April 1999, about three years and eleven months before the date of expiry of its five-year term. Nevertheless, about 570 hours were devoted to various kinds of business transacted by the House. Like its predecessor, this Lok Sabha will also be long remembered for the political upheavals that created circumstances leading to yet another General Election in a short span of less than two years.

2

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—FUNCTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING TWELFTH LOK SABHA*

Enforcement of Accountability

No tax can be levied or collected except by authority of law passed by Parliament, as per the provisions of article 265 of the Constitution. Further, article 266(3) of the Constitution provides that no money shall be appropriated out of the Consolidated Fund of India or of the Consolidated Fund of a State except in accordance with law and for the purposes and in the manner provided therein. In other words, no money can be drawn or spent by the Central Government without prior sanction and authority of Parliament.

Parliamentary control over public expenditure is, however, not limited only to the voting of moneys required by a Government for carrying out the administration of the country. The essential adjunct of Parliamentary system is the accountability of the Executive to Parliament and the right of Parliament to oversee the way in which the Executive functions. The checks that Parliament exercises over the Executive stems for the basic principle that Parliament embodies the will of the people and it must, therefore, be able to supervise the manner in which public policy approved by Parliament is carried out and public money spent. However, due to the magnitude and complexity of State activities coupled with paucity of time it is not feasible for Parliament to intensively scrutinise on the floor of the House the functioning of the Executive. Based on the experience of Parliaments all over the world, the Committee system with adequate powers has been widely acclaimed as the best suited system for detailed scrutiny of the administrative actions with a view to enforcing executive accountability to the Parliament and through it to the people at large.

In India, Executive accountability to Parliament is ensured through a well-developed system of committees, important among them being the three financial committees of Parliament, *viz.*, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), the Estimates Committee (EC) and the Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU). Of them, the Public Accounts Committee plays a pivotal role in the enforcement of financial accountability of the Executive to Parliament.

Evolution of PAC

The Public Accounts Committee was set up in India in February 1921 in the wake of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. Though modelled on the pattern adopted in British Parliament, it functioned more or less as an adjunct of the Finance Department till 1950. The Finance Member, as he was then called, (akin to the present day Finance Minister) was the *ex-Officio* Chairman and his Office functioned as the Secretariat of the Committee. However, with the coming into effect of our Republican Constitution in 1950, the Public Accounts Committee underwent a radical change and became a full-fledged Parliamentary Committee with a non-official Chairman appointed by the Speaker and the secretarial assistance provided by the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

The Committee consists of 22 members—15 elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote and 7 members of the Rajya Sabha, similarly elected by that House for being associated with the committee. A minister is not eligible for election to this Committee. The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst the member of the Committee belonging to the Lok Sabha. The term of office of the Members of the Committee is one year.

*Contributed by Committee on Public Accounts Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Scope and Functions of the Committee

The scope and functions of the Committee are enshrined in Rule 308 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. The main functions of the Committee include examination of accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by Parliament for expenditure of the Government of India and annual Finance Accounts of the Government of India and such other accounts laid before the House as the Committee may think fit. In scrutinising the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of India and the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) thereon, the Committee has to satisfy:

(a) that the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged;

(b) that the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it; and

(c) that every re-appropriation has been made in accordance with the provisions made in this behalf under rules framed by competent authority.

One of the functions of the Committee is to ascertain that money granted by Parliament has been spent by Government "within the scope of the demand". It considers the justification for spending more or less than the amount originally sanctioned. If any money has been spent on a service in excess of the amount granted by the House for the purpose, the Committee examines, with reference to the facts of each case, the circumstances leading to such an excess and makes such recommendations as it may deem fit.

The Committee examines a wide array of subjects and diverse facets of Government Departments and highlights cases involving losses, nugatory expenditure and financial irregularities.

While scrutinising the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on Revenue Receipts, the Committee examines various aspects of Government's tax administration involving under-assessment, tax-evasion, non-levy of duties, misclassifications, etc. It also identifies the loopholes in the taxation laws and procedures and makes recommendations in order to check leakage of revenue.

The Committee at work

The Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India mainly form the subject matter of the deliberations of the Committee. At the beginning of its term every year, the Committee considers various Reports of the C&AG of India laid on the Table of the House. After holding deliberations and taking note of the time available at its disposal, the Committee selects the most important paragraphs from the Audit Reports for detailed examination and submits its Reports to the House on them.

Sub-Committees/Working Groups

The Committee may appoint one or more Sub-Committees to examine any particular matter. At the beginning of its term, the Committee appoints a few Working Groups to facilitate the examination of the various Accounts and Audit Reports. A Sub-Committee is also appointed to consider the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the Committee in its earlier Reports. If at any stage of its inquiry, the Committee feels it necessary to make an on-the-spot study of the projects/establishments it may, either in its entirety or by dividing itself into Study Groups, do so by undertaking tours to the places of such projects/ establishments.

A remarkable feature of the functioning of the Public Accounts Committee is the non-partisan approach of its members in all its deliberations. All political parties are represented in the Committee in proportion to their strength in both the Houses of Parliament. The committees thus commands great respect and its recommendations, being unanimous, are treated as the recommendations of the Parliament itself.

Action Taken on Recommendations

A report has value only if it is properly followed up. Initially, the Committee watched the action taken by Government on its recommendations through action taken statements which were appended to the Committee's main Reports. However, in the sixties, the practice of presenting a separate Action Taken Report (ATR) on each Original Report was set in. The Government's responsibility does not cease with the presentation of the Action Taken Report. It is required to intimate to the Committee, normally within six months of the presentation of a Report, the action

taken or proposed to be taken by it on the recommendations contained in the Action Taken Report. The action taken reported by the Government, is then laid on the Table of both the Houses in the form of a statement without any further comments by the Committee. This system not only reinforces the accountability of the Executive to Parliament but also enables Parliament and the general public to appraise the Government's final replies to the Committee's recommendations. This completes the examination of a subject by the Committee.

Reports Presented by the Committee during Twelfth Lok Sabha

The efficacy of the functioning of the Public Accounts Committee during the Twelfth Lok Sabha in ensuring Executive accountability was so pervading and emphatic that on occasions where the heads of the concerned Ministries/Departments were not fully prepared to tender evidence before the Committee in respect of examination of certain subjects, they were directed to withdraw and reappear before the Committee. Thus the earnest pursuit of the Committee to unearth irregularities of varied nature has helped invigorate and activate the functioning of the Executive.

During the short span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Committee held 26 sittings of about 48 hours duration and presented 11 Reports to Parliament of which 5 were Original and 6 were Action Taken Reports. The Committee constituted one Sub-Committee and 4 Study Groups and visited 52 Establishments/ Organisations for on-the-spot study.

The discussions held by the Committee with the field functionaries during the study visits were highly informative. Detailed questionnaires on each of the subjects were prepared by the Secretariat to provide suitable background to the members so as to enable them to elicit pinpointed information. The field functionaries had, eventually, to bare the information and admit the lapses and shortcomings.

The Committee was, however, quite appreciative of the difficulties and handicaps of the field functionaries. It was observed that the field visits and sustained interests of the members in the subject proved immensely useful and the Committee, through a number of on-the-spot study visits, was able to instill and enforce accountability. The Committee's deep and abiding concern for observing transparency, cannons of financial propriety and the need for bringing efficiency highly inspired the field functionaries.

Some of the important Reports presented by the Committee during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are discussed in the succeeding paragraphs.

Appropriation Accounts of the Union Government: The Annual Appropriation Accounts of the Union Government present the details of expenditure incurred in a financial year *vis-a-vis* the sums authorised in the Demand for Grants or Appropriations for expenditure of the Union Government as specified in the Schedule appended to the Appropriation Acts passed under articles 114 and 115 of the Constitution. Presently, five Appropriation Accounts of the Union Government are presented to Parliament according to the different sectors of the Governmental activities, namely, Civil, Defence Services, Postal Services, Telecommunication Services and Railways. After their presentation to Parliament, these Appropriation Accounts of the Union Government stand referred to the Public Accounts Committee which scrutinises them under the provisions of Rule 308 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. One of the functions of the Committee under this rule is to examine and report on cases of expenditure in excess of voted grants. If money has been spent on a service in excess of the amount granted by the House for that purpose, the Committee examines its expenditure with reference to the facts of each case, the circumstances leading to such an excess expenditure and makes such recommendations as it may deem fit. Such cases are thereafter required to be brought before the House by the Government for regularisation in the manner envisaged by article 115 of the Constitution.

During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Public Accounts Committee recommended regularisation of excess expenditure incurred by the Government over Voted Grants/Charged Appropriations for the year 1996-97. In its Reports on the Appropriation Accounts of the Union Government, the Committee found certain disquieting trends in the system of budgeting, departures from prescribed financial rules/discipline and faulty exercise of financial control by various Ministries/Departments which had resulted in excess expenditure of considerable magnitude. The Committee recommended regularisation of excess expenditure during the tenure

of Twelfth Lok Sabha as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Appropriation Accounts	No. of excess registering grants	No. of excess registering appropriations	Amount of actual excess expenditure *(in units of Rupees)*
1.	Civil	5	3	67,28,94,693
2.	Telecommunication Services	1	1	448,08,99,563
3.	Railways	8	3	191,34,48,556
	Total	14	7	706,72,42,812

The Committee presented its first report on 'Excess Grants and Charged Appropriations' to the House on 8 December 1998. In this report the Committee expressed concern over the failure of the Ministries/Departments to check excess expenditure which was to the tune of Rs. 706.72 crore. The Committee observed that despite issuance of elaborate instructions by the Ministry of Finance in pursuance of the repeated exhortations of the PAC in the past to contain the instances of excess expenditure to the barest minimum, if not eliminate them altogether, the situation had not improved to the desired extent. While emphasising the urgent and imperative need to devise an effective system to ensure rigid enforcement of all those instructions with a view to enforcing financial discipline in the Ministries/ Departments of the Union Government, the Committee urged the Department of Expenditure to devise a strong mechanism for strict application of prescribed financial rules and deal sternly with cases of any deviations from established financial principles so as to curb the undesirable tendency of incurring expenditure having the effect of exceeding the grants or appropriation authorised by Parliament by law for a financial year.

Infructuous Expenditure of Rs. 29 crore–Communication Network: The Sixth Report of the Public Accounts Committee (Twelfth Lok Sabha) relating to 'Infructuous Expenditure of Rs. 29 crore–Communication Network' was presented to the Lok Sabha on 17 March 1999. The Report dealt with a case where the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) approved a project in August 1988 on an urgent requirement basis at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.50 crore for setting up of a "High Frequency Radio Communication Network (HFRC)" for linking 27 diplomatic missions located in the countries of strategic importance with New Delhi to facilitate voice and data communication. The project was to be completed within 15 months, *i.e.*, by November 1989. However, the project could not be made fully operational even after a lapse of more than nine years. The Committee's examination of the subject revealed several disquieting aspects in the execution of the project. Broadly the irregularities were : imprudent selection of the firm Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) as a consultant to the project, questionable selection of M/s Mackey Co. of USA as a Supplier, poor quality of equipments supplied, inadequate pre-dispatch inspection by TCIL, unrealistic time-frame fixed for the completion of the project and, lack of advance planning and coordination between the MEA and TCIL. The Committee observed that the MEA had miserably failed to implement HFRC project and inept handling of the project not only rendered the expenditure of over Rs. 29 crore questionable but also made the basic objective of providing reliable communication network between New Delhi and the 27 missions unattainable in the foreseeable future.

Procurement of Solar Photo Voltaic Panels: Ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee (Twelfth Lok Sabha) relating to Procurement of Solar Photo Voltaic Panels was presented to the Lok Sabha on 21 April 1999. The Committee's examination revealed that the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) had extended undue favour to the tune of Rs. 24.03 crore to the suppliers in the purchase of 88,000 Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) Panels at a cost of Rs. 210.41 crore which were used in rural telecom network during the period 1991-95. The Committee's examination also revealed that DoT meted out discriminatory treatment towards some firms, both in placement of supply orders and in prescribing the delivery period and favoured private firms at the cost of proven public sector undertakings. The Committee suggested for a high level inquiry to pinpoint the responsibility for such a costly procedural and administrative irregularity.

Avoidable Extra Expenditure on Import of Sugar—Action Taken on 45th Report (10th Lok Sabha): The Forty-fifth Report of the Public Accounts Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on 27 April 1993. In this Report, the Committee found that inspite of the fact that the Chief Director (Sugar), on account of the very precarious stock position, had stressed in his note dated 19 May 1989 the need for import of sugar for arrival from the month of July/August 1989, it took more than three months for the Government to accord approval for import of 2 lakh tonnes of sugar in August 1989 and an additional quantity of one lakh tonnes in two instalments in September and October 1989. Keeping in view the then prevailing very difficult stock position of sugar, the Committee could not find any cogent reason for the lack of urgency displayed by the concerned authorities in the matter of according approval for import of sugar. The Committee, therefore, recommended the need for a high level probe by an independent agency into the entire question of delayed import of sugar and the resultant financial loss, with a view to fixing responsibility. In its Action Taken Report (Eleventh Report—Twelfth Lok Sabha) the Committee pointed out that even though a high level probe by the CBI was done before the presentation of the original Report to Parliament, the Government failed to furnish the information to the Committee. The investigation report of the CBI submitted by the Government to the Committee alongwith the Action Taken Notes indicated that the investigation made by the CBI in 1990 centered around the role played by the then Minister of Food in the transaction relating to import of sugar. The Committee observed that the Ministry did not mention whether the CBI Report was examined by them from all possible angles with a view to assuring themselves about the possibility of prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 or under any other law having regard to the findings of CBI pointing the needle of suspicion to certain public servants for their role in the whole affair. The Committee viewed with serious concern that the vital question of pinpointing the lapses on the part of the people concerned was not touched upon by the CBI and as such the question of identification of the culpable officials/departments responsible for the wrongful financial loss had been left unattended by the concerned Ministry. Based on the information made available to it, the Committee concluded that the then Minister of State for Food and Civil Supplies misused his position and caused pecuniary loss to the Government. The Committee, therefore, reiterated its earlier recommendation asking the Government to have a thorough probe into the entire transaction and take stringent punitive action against the officers found responsible for various acts of omission and commission leading not only to delay in the import of sugar but also enormous financial loss to the nation and immense hardship caused to the people.

To sum up, though *ex-post-facto* in nature, the Public Accounts Committee's scrutiny of expenditure and revenue receipts has been highly effective. Through its constant vigil over the Administration and detailed examination of the accounts of the Government, the Committee has sought, over the years, to ensure financial discipline in Governmental spending. However, with the tremendous increase in the public spending *vis-a-vis* public revenues, the possibility of financial irregularities have also increased and this gives a greater scope for the Public Accounts Committee to probe such matters. The Committee, being responsible to the Parliament, can discharge its duties fairly and fearlessly to ensure effective management of public finance.

3

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES— ROLE, FUNCTIONS AND WORKING PROCEDURE*

Introduction

Under the Indian Constitution no moneys can be drawn or spent by the Government out of the Consolidated Fund of India except under the authority of law passed by Parliament. Parliament alone has the power of the purse. Government proposals for expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India are presented to Lok Sabha in the form of Demands for Grants before the commencement of each financial year and also, if necessary, at later stages through Supplementary Demands for Grants during the course of the year. These are discussed and voted by Lok Sabha before the law authorising the Government to draw and spend the money is passed by Parliament. Parliamentary control over public expenditure is, however, not limited only to the voting of moneys required by the Government for carrying on the administration of the country, but it also extends to ensuring that expenditure is incurred in a prudent manner on plans and programmes approved by Parliament and the objectives underlying them are fully achieved. Even though Lok Sabha discusses the Demands for Grants for a sufficiently long period before voting, due to the magnitude and complexity of the State activities, it is almost impossible for Parliament as a body to scrutinise in detail the myriad proposals of expenditure and Government activities effectively and minutely. In fact, it has neither the time nor the expertise for a thorough scrutiny of the plethora of items included in the Demands for Grants or achievements claimed by the Government. And, because of its size and procedure, it is not suited for such a task.

In order to help it exercise effective control over public expenditure, the Lok Sabha has set up three Financial Committees, namely, the Committee on Public Accounts, the Committee on Estimates and the Committee on Public Undertakings. Besides the Financial Committees, 17 Departmentally Related Standing Committees have also been constituted *w.e.f.* 8 April 1993 to consider the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments; Bills referred to them by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha or the Speaker, Lok Sabha; Annual Reports of the Ministries/ Departments and national basic long term policy documents and to make reports thereon. These Committees keep an unremitting vigil over Governmental spending and performance, bring to light inefficiencies, waste and indiscretion in the implementation of policies and programmes approved by Parliament and make recommendations to tone up the Administration for the economical, efficient and speedy execution of these policies and programmes. The relentless crusade of the Financial Committees to achieve this goal, keeps the Administration on its toes and secures its accountability to Parliament. These Committees also provide a forum for interaction between Government Departments and Parliament.

Historical Background

The question of setting up the Committee on Estimates to examine the expenditure of the Government in greater detail had been raised in the Central Legislature from time to time since 1937 but the proposal was accepted by the Government only after Independence in 1950. Accordingly, the Committee was first constituted on 10 April 1950 to examine the estimates with a view to effecting economies in public expenditure and improvements in organisation, efficiency, or administrative reforms.

*Contributed by Committee on Estimates Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

It is well known that Parliamentary control over public expenditure is not only limited to voting of moneys required for carrying on the administration of the country but also extends to ensuring that the expenditure is incurred in a prudent manner and that the objectives underlying the policies approved by Parliament are achieved. This involves an in-depth examination of the estimates presented to the House and a critical appraisal of the plans and programmes of the Government as well as its performance in the field.

The Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri G.V. Mavalankar, while addressing the first Committee on Estimates on 18 April 1950 succinctly analysed the principal objectives, role and functions of the Committee as follows:

(i) to associate with and train as large a number of members as possible, not only in the ways in which the administration is carried on, but also to make them conversant with the various problems that the Government has to meet from day-to-day;

(ii) to exercise control over the Executive so that it does not become oppressive or arbitrary;

(iii) to influence the policies of the Government; and

(iv) to act as a link between the Government and the general public.

The work of the Committee is onerous and important. Unless the Committee closely studies and thoroughly grasps both the purpose and the machinery for executing the plan, the estimates of which are before it, it will not be able to examine fully and properly the relevant estimates and suggest economies in money, time and energy. An efficient examination by the Committee will go to create consciousness in Governmental machinery that there is someone who will scrutinise what is proposed. This itself is a great check on the Executive. The examination by the Committee, if carried out properly, will lead to general efficiency of the Administration. The examination by the Committee may also be useful as a guide for both future estimates and future policies."

Composition

Initially, the Committee on Estimates consisted of 25 members elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote. This system of election ensures that all major political parties and groups in the Lok Sabha are represented on the Committee fairly in proportion to their strength in the Lok Sabha. In 1956, the membership of the Committee was raised to 30.

A special feature of the Committee is that it consists exclusively of members of the Lok Sabha. The reason is that since the Constitution of India vests all financial powers almost entirely in the Lok Sabha, it is the Lok Sabha alone which could exercise the power to scrutinise the expenditure of the Government of India incurred against the budgetary grants made by the Lok Sabha and suggest economies.

Term

The term of the Committee is one year starting from 1 May to 30 April next year. Even if the Committee is appointed later than 1 May, consequent upon constitution of a new Lok Sabha, its term expires on 30 April irrespective of the fact that it does not complete a full term of one year. According to a well established convention, the major parties nominate their members for election to the Committee for two consecutive terms. This convention ensures continuity in the functioning of the Committee.

Chairman

The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst the members of the Committee. By a convention, the Chairman of the outgoing Committee, if re-elected to the Committee, is appointed by the Speaker as Chairman for the second term also. The Chairmen so far appointed by the Speaker have been either from the ruling party or from one of the parties supporting the Government. The Committee has had the privilege of being chaired by eminent political luminaries like M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar who was its first Chairman, Balvantray Gopalji Mehta, H.C. Dassapa, A.C. Guha, P. Venkatasubbaiah, M. Thirumala Rao, Kamal Nath Tewari, R.K. Sinha, Bhagwat Jha Azad, Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Dr. Baldev Prakash, S.B.P. Pattabhi Rama Rao, Bansi Lal, Chintamani Panigrahi, Smt. Chandra Tripathi, Asutosh Law, Jaswant Singh, Manoranjan Bhakta, D. Krupasindhu Bhoi, S.B. Sidnal, Rupchand Pal and Madhukar Sirpotdar.

Conditions of Membership

A member, after his appointment as a Minister, ceases to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment. A healthy practice established under the Speaker's direction is that no member can continue his membership if he, after his election to the Estimates Committee accepts membership of any other Committee appointed by Government without the Speaker's approval. This provision is intended to keep the Committee free from any influence of the Government and enable it to arrive at conclusions, on the basis of the facts which come to its notice, objectively without any fear or favour. It also helps the officials of the Government in expressing their views before the Committee with candour besides allowing the Committee to function in an apolitical manner.

Functions

The Committee on Estimates examines such of the estimates as it may deem fit or are specifically referred to it by the House or the Speaker. The functions of the Committee, as enshrined in Rule 310 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, are as follows:

(a) to report what economies, improvements in organisation, efficiency or administrative reform, consistent with the policy underlying the estimates may be effected;

(b) to suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration;

(c) to examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates; and

(d) to suggest the form in which the estimates shall be presented to Parliament.

Provided that the Committee shall not exercise its functions in relation to such public undertakings as are allotted to the Committee on Public Undertakings by these rules or by the Speaker.

The term 'Policy' referred to in clause (a) above has been amplified by the following directions issued by the Speaker:

(1) The term 'Policy' referred to in clause (a) of Rule 310 relates only to policies laid down by Parliament either by means of Statutes or by specific Resolutions passed by it from time to time.

(2) It shall be open to the Committee to examine any matter which may have been settled as a matter of policy by the Government in the discharge of its executive functions.

(3) With regard to clause (b) of Rule 310, the Committee shall not go against the policy approved by Parliament; but where it is established on evidence that a particular policy is not leading to expected or desired results or is leading to waste, it is the duty of the Committee to bring to the notice of the House that a change in policy is called for. The fundamental objectives of the Committee are economy, efficiency in administration and ensuring that money is well laid out, but if on close examination, it is revealed that large sums are going to waste because a certain policy is followed, the Committee may point out the defects and give reasons for the change in the policy for the consideration of the House.

The scope of the examination of matters of policy by the Committee on Estimates was discussed by its Chairman Shri B.G. Mehta (1958-59) with the then Speaker on 1 September 1958. He spelt out the scope of examination, with which the Speaker agreed, as follows:

> "With regard to the matters of policy to be considered by the Committee, I had in my mind all along during my discussions with the Hon'ble Speaker that the Committee had to consider matters of policy following from the considerations of economy, efficiency, uniformity, better output of work; greater satisfaction of people's needs and the best possible use of the people's money of which the Parliament and its Committee, the Estimates Committee, are custodians. I agree that the Estimates Committee may not consider a matter of policy by itself merely because it requires to be changed on merit. Such consideration should have some relation to the various points I have enumerated above. There could not be such consideration without such relation. But it would be neither desirable nor practicable, to rule out all considerations of policy matters flowing from the above mentioned considerations."

As is evident from the above details, the functions of the Committee on Estimates are not confined to the examination of 'estimates' alone. The scope of

examination is quite comprehensive and extends to the examination of any aspect of the working of any Ministry/Department of the Government of India and allied organisations or of the subordinate offices and bodies not specifically excluded from its purview by the Rules of Procedure. The Committee can well enquire into any scheme, project or any other activity undertaken by the Central Government which may involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. The Committee, however, does not go behind the estimates and is not concerned with the process of formulation of estimates and their finalisation before their presentation to the Lok Sabha. While the Committee may examine the 'Budget Estimates' presented to Lok Sabha before the Demands for Grants are finally voted*, the Committee's inquiry is, in practice, limited to subjects taken up for detailed examination which is necessarily a time consuming process. The passage of the Budget is, therefore, not dependent on the completion of the Committee's work.

Working Procedure

The Committee on Estimates has made detailed rules and evolved procedures to regulate its working. The working procedure so evolved by the Committee during its 49 years of functioning is briefly described in the succeeding paragraphs.

Selection of Subjects: Immediately after its constitution every year, generally in the first week of May, the Committee holds its first sitting for selection of subjects for examination during the year. The subjects are selected after considering the various suggestions made by the Chairman and the members. The Committee's endeavour has always been to take up for examination such subjects as are of public importance or of topical nature or matters of special interest to the common people.

Matters Referred to the Committee by the House/the Speaker: Apart from the subjects selected by the Committee for examination, other subjects of public importance may also be referred to the Committee for examination from time to time by the House or the Speaker. Such references may be made either through observations made by the Speaker in the House or in the form of a communication from the Speaker to the Chairman of the Committee.

Sub-Committees/Study Groups: As soon as the Committee is constituted, it may appoint one or more Sub-Committees/Study Groups for carrying out detailed examination of various specific subjects and for scrutiny of action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the previous Reports of the Committee and for considering procedural and general matters. These Sub-Committees/Study Groups are appointed by the Chairman of the Committee after taking into account the consent of the members to serve on them. The system of Study Groups enables the members to apply themselves intensively to the study of subjects according to their aptitude and also encourages specialisation among members.

Collection of Material: The Committee has power to send for persons, papers and records. The Committee also has an elaborate system of collecting material and information not only from the Government but also from non-official organisations, institutions or experts on the subjects under examination. This is done by eliciting replies to questionnaires issued to the institutions concerned as also by requesting them to make specific suggestions for consideration by the Committee.

After the subjects are selected by the Committee for examination, the Ministries/Departments concerned are asked to furnish preliminary material on the subjects within a specified time. For this purpose, a questionnaire on each subject is drawn up and supplied to the Ministry/Department concerned. After going through the preliminary material, the members may suggest points on which further information is required by them. All the important points emerging as a result of study of the preliminary material and other literature on a subject, including the points suggested by the members, are consolidated in the form of a questionnaire. After approval by the Chairman, the questionnaire is sent to the concerned Ministry/Department for furnishing replies in writing. The Committee has also evolved a system of calling for memoranda on the subjects selected by it for examination from non-official organisations, interested parties and eminent persons having special expertise or knowledge of the subject which could be of advantage and use to the Committee in its examination. If considered necessary, selected non-official organisations, institutions and individuals are also called by the Committee for oral evidence.

* However, since the formation of Departmentally Related Standing Committees w.e.f. 8 April 1993, this function is being performed by these Committees.

Study Tours: The Committee undertakes study tours/visits for on-the-spot study of various institutions and establishments connected with the subject under examination and holds informal discussions with representatives of the concerned official/non-official organisations located at the place of visit. The Committee is usually divided into two Study Groups for undertaking tours. Each tour is undertaken with the specific approval of the Speaker. The impressions gathered during these study tours and informal discussions held with local officials are of considerable use to the Committee. Such tours make it possible for members to gain first-hand knowledge and a clear idea of the inner working of the administration at grass-roots and also learn many relevant and useful facts regarding the administration when they come in closer contact with high officials and become conversant with the other man's point of view in the course of discussion. This interaction adds to their knowledge and experience, and enables the members to function in a more enlightened, objective and judicious manner during the examination of the subject by the Committee.

Oral Evidence: The representatives of the Ministries concerned with the subjects under examination, usually the Secretaries of the Ministries/ Head of Departments, are called to tender oral evidence before the Committee. The oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministries is based on questionnaires framed in advance after indepth study of the material and information collected from the Government and non-official organisations and also during study tours. There may be certain points on which the witnesses are unable to furnish information to the Committee during the evidence stage itself. In such cases, the Chairman may permit the witnesses to furnish replies subsequently in writing.

Attendance of Secretaries of the Ministries/ Departments at the Sittings of the Committee: As provided in Direction 59 (1) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, the Committee on Estimates always insists on that the Ministry or the Department or the Undertaking should be represented by the Secretary or the Head of the Department or the Undertaking for giving evidence before the Committee. In case the Secretary or the Head of the Department is unable to attend the sitting of the Committee due to good and cogent reason, he should seek prior permission of the Chairman of the Committee for exemption from the sitting of the Committee in writing himself.

Minister not called before the Committee: A Minister is not called before the Committee either to give evidence or for consultation in connection with the examination of estimates by the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee may, however, when considered necessary but after its deliberations are concluded, have an informal talk with the Minister concerned to apprise him of

(a) any matters of policy laid down by the Minister with which the Committee does not fully agree; and

(b) any matter of secret and confidential nature which the Committee would not like to bring on record in its Report.

Draft Report : After the oral evidence of the representatives of the Government is over and all the information promised by the Government during evidence is received, the report of the Committee on the subject is drafted.

The draft Report is divided into Chapters and the Chapters into Sections, each dealing with related matters. The report generally consists of a narrative portion which summarises the material and evidence before the Committee and is followed by the observations/recommendations of the Committee.

The draft Report, after approval by the Chairman, is then placed before the Committee for consideration and adoption. A copy of the draft Report, without the recommendations/observations of the Committee, is sent to the Ministry concerned for factual verification. This is done to ensure that the facts contained in the report are absolutely correct.

After factual verification by the Ministry concerned, the Report is presented to the Lok Sabha by the Chairman. Thereafter, a Press Release, indicating some of the important recommendations made in the Report, is issued by the Secretariat.

Action Taken Reports (ATRs) : After presentation, a copy of the report is sent to the Ministry concerned for taking follow-up action on the observations/ recommendations of the Committee. The Ministries are expected to furnish the action taken replies within a period of six months. The action taken replies, when received, are examined by the Committee and a Report containing the views and recommendations of the Committee on 'Action Taken Replies' of the Government is presented to the Lok Sabha. After its presentation, a copy of the Action Taken Report is also sent to the Ministry concerned to furnish (i) statements of action taken or proposed to be taken by them on the observations/recommendations contained in Chapter I (Introductory Chapter) and (ii) the final replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter V (Concluding Chapter) of the Report within a period of six months from the date of presentation of the Report.

Laying of Statements of Action Taken: The statements of action taken or proposed to be taken as furnished by the Government are processed and scrutinized to see that the replies are complete in all respects. These statements of action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations contained in Action Taken Report are laid on the Table of the House after approval by the Chairman, without any further comments. This completes the examination of the subject by the Committee.

Examination of Estimates relating to the Ministry of Defence : A separate procedure has been laid down for examining the estimates of the Ministry of Defence. The examination of estimates relating to the Ministry of Defence is entrusted to a Sub-Committee of the Committee. The Sub-Committee on Defence has all the powers of the undivided Committee, among which the most notable are the powers to take oral evidence and to draw up a Report which is deemed to be a Report of the whole Committee, if approved by the latter.

Consensual Approach in Deliberations

There is a great degree of harmony among the members during the deliberations of the Committee and various shades of opinion represented on the Committee having divergent views on different issues emanating before the Committee are synthesized to find a maximum area of rapprochement.

An important aspect of the functioning of this Committee is that its decisions are always objective, judicious and unanimous and party considerations do not come in the way of its deliberations. The Committee works in a team spirit to uphold the value of parliamentary system so as to make the Executive more accountable to Parliament.

The Reports of the Committee are adopted with collective approval. There is no system of appending Minutes of Dissent with the Reports of the Committee. The objectivity reflected in the Reports of the Committee and the consensus among members on its recommendations/observations in a large measure accounts for the esteem in which recommendations/ observations of the Committee are held by the Government. It is, therefore, no wonder that the majority of the recommendations of the Committee find ready acceptance by the Government.

Quantum of Work

Since its inception and upto the year 1998-99, *i.e.*, from the First to the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Committee has presented 893 Reports (Original as well as Action Taken) covering almost the entire gamut of activities of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

An idea of the quantum of work handled by the Committee during the term of Twelfth Lok Sabha can be had from the table given below:

Work Done by the Committee on Estimates during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

No. of sittings held	:	9
No. of hrs. spent		11 hrs. 55 mts.
No. of pages of material studied		6347
Reports presented		
(a) Original		4
(b) Action Taken		1
Study tours undertaken		2 in two Study Groups each
Duration of tours		14 days
Discussions held/institutions visited	:	53

*The term of the Committee expired on 26 April 1999 consequent upon the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

The following five Reports—four Original and one Action Taken—were presented by the Committee during the Twelfth Lok Sabha:

Original Reports

1. Kar Vivad Samadhan Scheme, 1998 (First Report)
2. Crude Oil—Indigenous Production and Imports (Second Report)
3. Public Sector Banks—Bad Debts (Third Report)
4. Sickness/Closure of Textile Industry (Fourth Report)

Action Taken Report

5. Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of Estimates Committee (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Department of Urban Development)—Delhi Development Authority (Fifth Report).

Positive and Constructive Approach

The Committee has always had a positive and constructive approach in dealing with the subjects examined by it. In the discharge of its duties, the Committee works in close liaison with the Executive. The aim is to implement the will of the Parliament. The Committee while pointing out the organisational inadequacies, inefficient execution of projects/schemes and expenditure incurred without realising the full value of money, has at the same time given suggestions for corrective actions to effect improvements in the working of Government Departments/Organisations. The Committee has generally been more interested in corrective measures and procedural improvements in the system for the economical and efficient implementation of plans, projects and policies.

The Committee has in its 49 years of existence built up a wholesome reputation of being fearless and constructive. Its appraisal of the functioning of various Government Departments has been objective and non-partisan. Its vigil over Governmental spending and timely reports and constructive suggestions to plug loopholes in the existing systems and policies have resulted in improvements in the organisation and working of the Government of India. The Committee has also provided a forum for interaction between the Government and Parliament and an opportunity for information to flow from the former to the latter and ultimately to the people. The Committee has certainly performed its role with vigour, objectivity, impartiality and a sense of fairness so as to instil respect in the Administration and trust in public mind.

4

PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL OVER PUBLIC SECTOR: ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS*

Public sector undertakings owe their birth and growth to public funds and are incorporated and regulated by Acts of Parliament. It is, therefore, essential that Parliament, which embodies the will of the people and acts as the ultimate custodian of national interest and social good, be continually cognizant of the working of these undertakings in order to be assured that they are acting in accordance with the provisions of incorporating Acts and in consonance with the socio-economic objectives of national policies.

There had been a considerable increase in the member of Central public undertakings and the investment involved in them has grown appreciably during the last five decades. From a figure of Rs. 29 crore in only 5 undertakings at the commencement of the First Five Years Plan, the investment has gone upto Rs. 2,04,054 crore in 240 undertakings as on 31 March 1998. Still there are indications of accelerated growth of future investments in these undertakings.

The past experience shows that the public undertakings have strengthened and diversified the economy and given impetus to economic growth in the country. However, there have been infirmities in the working of many undertakings such as, tardy performance, sustained losses, managerial and technical inability, continued dependence on foreign assistance, etc., that have caused a great deal of concern to Parliament. Since the funds required for these undertakings are provided out of the Consolidated Fund of India, it is necessary that they function within the confines of public accountability. This is the *raison de tre* of detailed parliamentary scrutiny of public sector undertakings involving enormous investment in almost all areas of economic life of the country.

The control mechanism devised by Parliament to ensure the accountability of public undertakings mainly includes—interpellation of the Ministers in Parliament, debates/discussions on the floors of the Houses and the Committee on Public Undertakings. The experience gained so far has, however, shown that examination of public undertakings by the Committee on Public Undertakings has been the most effective form of parliamentary surveillance over them.

Origin of the Committee

The creation of a specific machinery for ensuring full parliamentary control over the public undertakings was first suggested during the discussion on a private member's resolution on 'Parliamentary Control of Public Corporations' in the Lok Sabha in December 1953. Dr. Lanka Sundaram, mover of the resolution, felt that the Committees on Public Accounts and Estimates had neither the time nor the opportunity to grasp fully the problems involved in the working of public corporations and, therefore, suggested the constitution of a parliamentary committee, apart from the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee, under the Speaker's direction, to sit all the year round, specifically charged with the task of looking into the affairs of the various categories of corporations, companies and institutions. But the Government at that time thought it inadvisable to have a separate parliamentary committee to look into the working of public corporations.

After an interval of about two and a half years, *i.e.*, in May 1956, the demand for setting up a separate committee to ensure accountability of the public corporations to Parliament was again put forward during the discussion on Life Insurance Corporation

*Contributed by Committee on Public Undertakings Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Bill in the Lok Sabha. However, the Government did not show much interest in the matter. Disclosing the Government's view in the matter, the then Finance Minister, Shri C.D. Deshmukh informed the House that "the Government has for the time being decided that the present Committees are able to cope with the work between them and there is no intention to set up one against the other." Taking a cue from the observation made by Shri Deshmukh, the then Chairman of the Estimates Committee, Shri B.G. Mehta suggested to the Speaker that instead of a separate parliamentary committee, a standing sub-committee of the Estimates Committee and Public Accounts Committee might be set up to deal with the public undertakings. The Speaker agreed to the suggestion partly and in July 1957, a sub-committee of the Estimates Committee was constituted to specifically look into the working of public undertakings of the Central Government.

The idea of having a separate Committee on Public Undertakings was revived once again in 1958, when the then Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru appointed on 10 April 1958 a sub-committee of the Congress Party in Parliament to consider the problems relating to state-owned corporations and companies and to suggest how a broad supervision may be maintained by Parliament over them without interference in their day-to-day activities. The sub-committee consisted of ten members and Shri V.K. Krishna Menon was appointed its Chairman. This Committee later suggested that a suitable parliamentary organ should be evolved to exercise supervision over the government companies. The Government, however, took three years to make-up its mind for the setting up of such a committee. On 24 November 1961, a motion for the constitution of a Joint Committee on State Undertakings was moved by the then Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah. The motion was, however, not pursued as objections, both from procedural and Constitutional points of view, were raised by members. The Government took two years to overcome the objections raised in both the Houses. On 21 September1963 two motions in this regard were moved in the Lok Sabha by the then Minister of Industry, Shri Nityanand Kanungo. The first motion was for the constitution of a Committee to be called 'the Committee on Public Undertakings' and in the second motion a specific request was made to the Rajya Sabha to agree to nominate five members to "associate with this Committee". These motions were taken up for discussion in the Lok Sabha on 18 November 1963. The House adopted both the motions with minor changes. Thus in pursuance of these motions, the Committee on Public Undertakings was formally constituted on 1 May 1964 after a decade's sustained demand.*

Constitution of the Committee

The Committee on Public Undertakings is constituted every year. It is composed of members of both the Houses of Parliament. Initially it consisted of 15 members–10 members elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members, according to the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote and 5 members of Rajya Sabha to be nominated by that house for being associated with the Committee. This system of election ensures the representation of almost all Parties and Groups in Parliament, in proportion to their strength in the Houses. From the year 1974-75, in order to cope with the increase in the number of undertakings, the strength of the Committee was raised from 15 to 22–15 members to be elected by the Lok Sabha and 7 members to be nominated by the Rajya Sabha for being associated with the Committee.

A Minister is not eligible to become a member of the Committee. If a member after his election to the Committee is appointed a Minister, he ceases to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment. The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst the members of the Committee belonging to the Lok Sabha.

Scope of Functions

The main function of the Committee is to examine, in the context of the autonomy and efficiency of the public undertakings, whether the affairs of the public undertakings are being managed in accordance with sound business principles and prudent commercial practices. In terms of Rule 312A of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha read with the Fourth Schedule to the Rules, every government company whose annual report is placed before the Houses of Parliament comes within the purview of the Committee. Thus all government companies incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 in which

* Prior to the constitution of this Committee, the Public Accounts Committee examined the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) on public undertakings and the Estimates Committee examined, in general, the individual undertakings and different aspects of functioning of all undertakings.

the Central Government is a shareholder could be examined by the Committee.* This is, however, not the case with the public undertakings established by special Central Acts. Only those undertakings set up under Central Acts which have been specified in Part I of the Fourth Schedule to the Rules referred to above can be examined by the Committee. These undertakings are– (i) The Damodar Valley Corporation, (ii) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India, (iii) The Indian Airlines, (iv) The Air India, (v) The Life Insurance Corporation of India, (vi) The Central Warehousing Corporation (vii) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., (viii) The Food Corporation of India, (ix) The International Airports Authority of India, (x) The Industrial Development Bank of India and (xi) The Delhi Transport Corporation.

Some organisations like the Reserve Bank of India, the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries, all the nationalised banks and some other public sector institutions like the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and the Unit Trust of India are not included in Part I of the Fourth Schedule to the Rules and are thus beyond the scope of examination by the Committee since they have to closely comply with the laid down norms of banking autonomy and operational flexibility. However, *w.e.f.* 8 April 1993 the policies pursued by these public sector organisations are being examined by the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Finance constituted by the Lok Sabha every year.

Functioning of the Committee

The Committee normally selects 15 to 18 undertakings/subjects for examination during a year. The Committee may also select those undertakings for examination whose comprehensive appraisals appear in the Audit Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (C&AG) of India who assists the Committee in the examination of such undertakings. In addition, the Committee also selects one or more aspects of working of various public undertakings in order to widen its scope of coverage. Such an examination by the Committee is known as 'horizontal study'.

The Committee on Public Undertakings acts as the eyes and the ears of Parliament as far as the public undertakings are concerned. The reports of the Committee cover a wide gamut of activities of these undertakings–organisational as well as operational—and reveal the manner in which they have been functioning. It also suggests the areas where there is a scope for further improvement.

By highlighting shortfalls in targets in physical, economic and financial terms, in respect of various plans and programmes under execution in various areas of working of the enterprise, the Committee brings out in sharp focus the accountability not only of the public undertakings but also that of the Ministries exercising administrative control over them.

The Committee's appraisal is not only confined to financial performance of the undertakings but it also extends to several other important aspects like project implementation, managerial efficiency, cost of production, value–addition, manpower planning, etc., which are crucial for the health of an undertaking.

Implementation of Recommendations

The Committee does not remain content with only presentation of Reports. It has devised a system of monitoring the implementation of its recommendations. The Committee calls for replies from the Government within 6 months of the presentation of Reports showing action taken by the Government on its various recommendations. A sub-committee of the Committee scrutinises these replies and prepares the Action Taken Report which, after approval by the main Committee, is presented to both the Houses of Parliament in the same manner as the Original Report. In the Action Taken Reports, the Committee may or may not accept the replies of the Government. The Committee in the latter cases may reiterate its earlier recommendations and offer its remarks/observations as it deems fit. After an Action Taken Report is presented to the House, copies thereof are sent to the concerned Ministries/Undertakings for necessary follow-up action. As soon as the replies on Action Taken Report are received from the Ministries/ Undertakings, the same are consolidated in the form of a Statement and then laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament.

Reports Presented by the Committee during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Committee on Public Undertakings held 21 sittings of about 27 hours duration. The Committee presented six Reports of which three were Original and three Action Taken. The Committee visited nine establishments for on-the-spot study of the working of the undertakings under

* Presently there are 240 Central public undertakings that come within the purview of the Committee's examination.

examination. The Original Reports presented by the Committee during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are briefly discussed in the succeeding paragraphs.

Follow-up Action on Reports of the C&AG of India (Commercial): The Reports of the C&AG of India (Commercial) are presented to Parliament every year in several parts. The Office of the C&AG brought to the notice of the Committee that there was no monitoring at the Government level for follow-up action on the Reports of the C&AG (Commercial). The Committee, therefore, decided to take up for examination the subject "Follow-up Action on the Reports of the C&AG of India (Commercial)". During examination, the Committee found that out of 57 Reports of the C&AG (Commercial) presented to Parliament from March 1993 to July 1998, Action Taken Notes in respect of as many as 865 paragraphs of various Reports pertaining to 30 Ministries/Departments were pending as on 16 December 1998. Taking a serious note of non-submission or late submission of Action Taken Notes on the Reports of the C&AG (Commercial) by the concerned Administrative Ministries, the Committee in its Second Report on the subject recommended that immediate steps be taken by the Government for setting up monitoring cells in each Ministry to monitor the submission of the follow-up action on Audit Reports (Commercial) on individual undertakings. In case of Reports containing paras relating to a number of undertakings (under different Ministries), the Committee recommended that a monitoring cell should also be set up in the Department of Public Enterprises to monitor the follow-up action on such Reports.

Senior Level Posts in Public Undertakings : The appointment to top level posts in public undertakings is very important since it has a direct bearing on the internal functioning of the undertakings. It was in this context that the Committee took up for examination the subject–"Senior Level Posts in Public Undertakings–Appointment and Related Matters." In its Fourth Report on the subject, the Committee observed that while the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) was responsible for making appointments to Level I and Level II posts in public sector enterprises, it had not been vested with any authority and its recommendations were not always acted upon by the Administrative Ministries. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the appointments to senior level management posts in public undertakings should be made through the PESB only and under no circumstances such appointments be allowed to bypass the procedure outlined by the PESB. Emphasing the need for transparency in the process of recruitments for these posts, the Committee urged the Government to make the PESB a statutory body, like the Union Public Service Commission, with sufficient authority.

The Committee also took serious note of the lack of seriousness on the part of the Government in making appointments of non-official Directors in the public undertakings. During examination, the Committee found that as many as 111 undertakings did not have adequate number of non-official Directors on their Boards. As the non-official Directors were drawn from technocrats, management experts, consultants and professional managers having sufficient experience in industry and trade, the Committee opined that shortage of non-official Directors on the Boards deprived the undertakings of expert guidance of seasoned professionals and technocrats. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the strength of non-official Directors in public undertakings be brought to the level stipulated in the guidelines.

The Committee had also felt that having part-time Chairman and full time Managing Director in an undertaking has resulted in divided responsibility at the highest level of management. In order to avoid dual authority at the top, the Committee recommended that both the posts of the Chairman and the Managing Director be entrusted to one person in the undertakings having single units. In multi-unit companies, the undertaking may be headed by a Chairman and each unit be headed by a Managing Director.

Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL): In its Fifth Report on "Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Limited–Dehradun Unit", the Committee pointed out that the existing indigenous production capacity of this Unit was much less as compared to the projected demand of rock phosphate in future. The Committee felt that in the event of closure of Dehradun Unit, the country would be left with no option other than the one to import rock phosphate to meet the demand of fertilizer. In addition to this, going by the cost analysis for continuation and closure of Dehradun Unit, the figures worked out also favoured the continuation of the Unit. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommended that Dehradun Unit should be allowed to continue its operations with enhanced incentive as proposed by PPCL in its Corporate Plan, at least for a period of five years by which time the unit was expected to become viable. This, in the opinion of the Committee, would also facilitate continued employment of the people in the remote hilly region and make available Mussoorie-Phos (M-Phos) to the farmers.

The Committee not only criticises the undertakings/ Government for their deficiencies but also suggests corrective/remedial measures. For instance, in its Fifth Report, the Committee expressed concern over the inherent contradictions of Dehradun Unit of PPCL. Two of the major handicaps of this unit of PPCL were that on the one hand it owned the only underground mines in the country producing rock phosphate and on the other, markets were situated in far off places. On account of increase in the cost of deep underground mines and freight charges to the distant markets in North-East and Southern regions, the cost of sales of M-Phos registered a phenomenal increase from Rs.1894/MT in 1991-92 to Rs. 2917/MT in 1997-98 against the average sales realisation of Rs. 1782/MT rendering uneconomical the production of M-Phos in Dehradun Unit of PPCL as compared to other indigenous producers who conducted open cast mining. According to the Committee, the factors leading to high cost of production were not within the control of Dehradun Unit. It was, therefore, suggested by the Committee that Government should find ways and means of making some exceptions in the case of such a unit situated in a remote hilly region to cover the additional cost incurred by it for production of M-Phos.

Impact of the Committee's Reports

During its existence of thirty five years, the Committee on Public Undertakings has significant achievements to its credit. Since its inception, the Committee has presented 503 Reports (250 Original Reports and 253 Action Taken Reports). Of the 250 original reports, 217 were on individual undertakings and 33 were Horizontal Studies (*See* Annexure) relating to the issues common to the working of all public undertakings.

The findings of the Committee as embodied in its Reports, have been quite revealing. The Reports presented by the Committee from time-to-time have not only highlighted the cases of corruption, malpractices, irregularities, etc., but also pointed out the instances of extravagant and infructuous expenditure, lapses of management—both financial and administrative, under utilisation of capacity, escalation of cost of production and lack of cost-control consciousness in certain undertakings. It should, however, not be misunderstood that the Committee on Public Undertakings is merely a fault finding agency. It has, in fact, appreciated many undertakings for their efficient and economical functioning. While its 'investigatory' and 'monitoring' roles have brought to light many defects and undesirable practices in the working of public undertakings, its 'advisory' role has helped the undertakings to re-orient their operations so as to make them more efficient and goal-oriented.

The acceptability of the Committee's recommendations may be taken as an index of its impact and efficacy. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Committee presented three Action Taken Reports which provide an appraisal of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations made by it in its three different reports presented during the period of the Eleventh Lok Sabha. An analysis of action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in these three different reports reveals that out of 66 recommendations, 41 recommendations, *i.e.*, more than 62 per cent have been accepted by the Government for necessary follow-up action.

The Committee's Reports not only provide at one convenient point the results of its critical and constructive examination of the administration and management of public enterprises but also provides an important forum where the Legislature, the Executive and the managements of public undertakings directly meet face to face, endeavour to analyse the problems of the undertakings and find out acceptable solutions for better planning and management.

To sum up, the Committee on Public Undertakings has been instrumental in identifying the operational deficiencies in the working of public undertakings and in suggesting remedial measures so as to rectify the faults that have come to its notice in the course of examination. Having conducted valuable inquiries into the working of a large number of public undertakings, without affecting their operational autonomy, the Committee has secured their accountability to Parliament in an effective manner and also acquired a significant position for itself as a friend and guide for these undertakings. It is for this reason that this Committee has been regarded as one of the most important and influential Committees of Parliament.

ANNEXURE

List of Reports on Horizontal Studies Conducted by the Committee on Public Undertakings since its Inception

1. Organization and Administration of Nationalised Industrial Undertakings
2. Preparation of Budget Estimates of Public Undertakings and Presentation of their Annual Reports and Accounts to Parliament
3. Public Undertakings–Forms and Organisations
4. Revision of the Form and Contents of the Demands for Grants (exclusion of Profit and Loss Accounts and Balance Sheets of Public Undertakings from the Demands for Grants)
5. Public Undertakings–Accommodation rented in Principal Cities and Guest Houses, Staff Cars etc., maintained by them
6. Extravagant Expenditure on Guest Houses incurred by Public Undertakings
7. Personnel Policies of Public Undertakings
8. Personnel Policies and Labour management Relations in Public Undertakings
9. Township and Factory Buildings of Public Undertakings
10. Management and Administration of Public Undertakings (Planning Projects)
11. Materials Management in Public Undertakings
12. Financial Management in Public Undertakings
13. Public Relations and Publicity in Public Undertakings
14. Extraordinarily High Expenditure on Publicity by Public Undertakings
15. Production Management in Public Undertakings
16. Public Undertakings–Delays in Commencement of Production/Business, Under-utilisation of Capacity and Related Matters
17. Role and Achievements of Public Undertakings
18. Foreign Collaboration in Public Undertakings
19. Extravagant and Infructuous Expenditure on Entertainment by Public Undertakings
20. Galloping Rise in Foreign Tours and Costs thereof Undertaken by Officials of Public Undertakings
21. Unusually High Expenditure by Public Undertakings for their Head Offices
22. Structure of Boards of Management of Public Undertakings and other Allied Matters
23. Expenditure on Hiring of Storage Space by Public Undertakings
24. Perquisites Enjoyed by Public Sector Executives and Perquisites Enjoyed by Air India Executives—A Case Study
25. Appointment of Auditors in Government Companies
26. Public Undertakings—Management and Control Systems
27. Productivity in Public Undertakings
28. Accountability and Autonomy of Public Undertakings
29. Litigations Pending for Settlement in Public Undertakings
30. Disposal of Scrap of Public Undertakings through Metal Scrap Trading Corporation/ other Public Undertakings
31. Social Responsibilities and Public Accountability of Public Undertakings
32. Sickness in Public Undertakings
33. Senior Level Posts in Public Undertakings–Appointment and Related Matters

5

PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL OVER SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION IN INDIA*

With the assumption of extensive welfare and developmental functions by the State, there has been a progressive increase in the range and complexity of governmental activities. In such a situation, it is not practicable for Parliament or a State Legislature, as a body, to deliberate upon, discuss and approve of every detail of legislation, which may be necessary for proper administration. The need, therefore, to meet unforeseen contingencies, the requirement of flexibility and, on occasions, the very technicality of the subject matters, make delegation by the Legislature of subsidiary or ancillary powers to subordinate authorities, a practical necessity.

The trend of modern legislation in all countries reveals that only a small part of the total legislative output comes directly from the Legislature and much more from the subordinate authorities. This is known as 'Subordinate Legislation'. The Legislature formulates only the general principles or policies relating to the subject matter in question and confers rule-making powers on the government departments or other administrative agencies. This technique of delegated legislation is so extensively used in modern times that there is probably no statute passed by the Legislature which does not delegate some power of legislation to the Executive or other subordinate agencies.

Need to have Control over Subordinate Legislation

Though Subordinate Legislation is now universally accepted as 'inevitable and indispensable', it is generally agreed that the tendency to delegate to the Executive the legislative powers is dangerous. Political scientists and others interested in the subject have felt that the concerned departments or the authorities to whom the ancillary legislative powers have been delegated, regulate matters of substantive nature which may closely affect the rights and interests of the citizens. In certain circumstances, people may be denied liberties by the administrators who are armed with legislative powers. Another risk inherent in the system of subordinate legislation is that officials in their zeal to achieve a particular objective may impose an undesirable burden on citizens by requiring them to comply with various conditions and formalities which might be restrictive of individual rights and freedom. Such tendencies strengthen the bureaucracy and result in undesirable complexities and difficulties. As the multiplicity of rules and amendments complicate the issues, life, liberty and property of the citizens are prone to be endangered by the speed at which laws are made and amended when the power of subordinate legislation is given to the Executive. In spite of all these drawbacks, subordinate legislation has come to stay. Two pertinent questions, therefore, crop up. First, how much power should be delegated by the Legislature to the subordinate authorities ? And second, what restraints or safeguards should be imposed upon the authorities exercising delegated legislative powers ? Today, the problem is not about the desirability or otherwise of delegated legislation but it is with regard to the controls and safeguards which can be introduced to ensure effective parliamentary control over subordinate legislation so that the powers conferred are not abused or misapplied.

Parliamentary Control over Subordinate Legislation

Parliamentary control over subordinate legislation is exercisable in several ways. First, the present statutes often require that the rules, regulations, orders, etc.,

*Contributed by Committee on Subordinate Legislation Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

made by the subordinate authorities be laid before Parliament. Second, there are other methods of control which may be resorted to by the members of the Legislature themselves. These methods, *inter alia*, include (i) questions to a Minister at any time and on any subject, (ii) motion of censure to be moved on the Minister-in-charge of implementation of any statute, and (iii) debate on a subject relating to subordinate legislation. These devices, however, do not always function satisfactorily and, therefore, need to be supplemented by special committees in the legislative bodies to watch over the exercise of delegated legislation and to report accordingly.

Position in Different Countries

Before dealing with the mechanism as devised by the Indian Parliament to control delegated legislation, it is pertinent to take a brief look at the position in some of the advanced democracies of the world.

Britain: In Britain, the Parliament can delegate legislative functions to the Government. There is no constitutional limit on the extent to which an Act of Parliament can delegate legislative functions. Till 1944, the House of Commons could not constitute any committee to scrutinize the rules and orders made in pursuance of the Acts. Whenever there was any proposal to constitute a Parliamentary Committee to control the Executive actions, the British Cabinet strongly reacted on the ground that the Cabinet would not tolerate any rivalries to its authority in the House of Commons. In spite of the criticism against the on-going menace of delegated legislation, the abuse of power could not be abolished altogether. However, a Select Committee on Statutory Rules and Orders was constituted for the first time in 1944. Later, the term 'Statutory Rules and Orders' was replaced by the term 'Statutory Instruments Act, 1946'* and the name of the Committee was, accordingly, changed as 'Statutory Instruments Committee'. Though the Committee has not yet been accorded a permanent status of recognition in the Standing Orders, it scrutinizes instruments, and reports to the House on the exercise of delegated legislative powers by the Government. This Committee has, however, no powers to enquire into the merits of a statutory instrument.

The United States of America: The Congress, by law, can delegate rule-making powers to departments and agencies of the Executive, but the Congress must establish the policy to be followed in this regard and the rules and regulations as prescribed must conform to that policy. Under the Administrative Procedure Act of 1946, the Congress has imposed a number of conditions upon the preparation and promulgation of rules and regulations, and has provided for a judicial review of orders issued by the Executive and the regulatory agencies. The Congress does not utilise to any great extent the practice of requiring proposed regulations to be submitted to it for its approval or veto. The courts have, however, the power to declare a law unconstitutional. Moreover, the doctrine of separation of powers is adhered to, as far as practicable. The Supreme Court has invoked the doctrine of *delegatus non potest delegase* against the process of delegation, which means a delegate cannot further delegate its powers. As such, the question of delegated legislation involves a conflict of values.

France: According to the Constitution of France, in order to carry out its programmes, the Government may request Parliament to authorise it to make orders for a limited period for measures which normally fall within the field of law. Parliamentary authority is given by a confirming Bill. So far as the procedure for scrutiny of delegated powers is concerned, no particular committee is designated in this matter. All the usual means of parliamentary control (written or oral questions, committees of investigation or control, budgetary control by Rapporteurs of the Finance Committee as well as the motion of censure) are used to ensure that the powers to make regulations, rules, etc., are properly exercised by the Government.

Canada: In Canada, legislative functions are delegated to the Government only insofar as the enabling statute confers regulation-making powers upon the Executive. There is a Committee on Delegated Legislation or Statutory Instruments to scrutinise and report to the House on the exercise by the Government of delegated legislative powers.

Position in India

Historical Background: Parliament has the inherent right to see that the powers delegated by it to make rules, sub-rules, regulations, bye-laws, etc., have been exercised in accordance with the terms of the statute delegating such powers and also that they are in accordance with the general principles of delegation. It has also the right to see that rule-making powers conferred by the Constitution, which are essentially of a legislative character, are properly exercised by the Executive.

* Statutory instruments take various forms and the procedure followed in ensuring that the powers contained therein are properly exercised varies with the type of instrument.

The need for having a separate parliamentary committee for the purpose was felt when for the first time Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the then Law Minister made a suggestion in the Provisional Parliament, during the Budget Session held in 1950 that there should be a Standing Committee of the House to examine delegated legislation and to bring to the notice of Parliament whether the delegated legislation has exceeded the original intentions of Parliament or has affected any fundamental principles. While taking part in the discussion on a motion moved by him on 11 April 1950 for taking into consideration the Part C States (Laws) Bill, Dr. Ambedkar made the following observations regarding delegated legislation:

> ".....the question that has to be considered is this, whether in view of time which is available to Parliament to get through some of the most essential measures necessary for carrying the Central Administration, to find time which could be devoted to a meticulous consideration of the details of a local legislation..... This activity of the Government of India to employ what is called delegated authority to legislate is not a new thing. It has been in existence practically from 1912..... Parliament is quite supreme either to legislate itself or to ask any other agent on its behalf to exercise that legislative power.... It may do so under proper safeguards. No Parliament will give a blank cheque to the Executive: it can certainly ask the Executive to fill in the blanks and I do not think there can be any difficulty about that. .... The Parliament has plenary powers. It can do anything with the legislative power it possesses. It can use it itself or ask someone else to use it on its behalf in certain circumstances. There is no prohibition imposed on it..... I could suggest to the House that at a latter stage the House may consider the procedure which has been recently adopted in the House of Commons which consists of having a Standing Committee of the House to examine such delegated legislation and to bring to the notice of Parliament whether the delegated legislation has either excluded the original intention of Parliament or has departed from it or has affected any fundamental principle. This is a matter which may be taken up independently."

Constitution of the Committee: In pursuance of the suggestion made by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, a proposal for setting up of a Committee on 'Subordinate Legislation' was made and relevant rules were drafted which were adopted by the Rules Committee of the House at its sitting held on 24 April 1951. However, it took some time to materialise the proposal and the first Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Lok Sabha comprising ten members was constituted on 1 December 1953 to scrutinise and report to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, bye-laws, etc., conferred by the statute or delegated by Parliament are properly exercised within the limits set*. Later, on 9 January 1954, the strength of the Committee was raised to fifteen by amending the relevant rules. The members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker for a term of one year. Minister is not nominated a member of the Committee, and if a member, after his/her nomination to the Committee, is appointed a Minister, he/she ceases to be a member of the Committee from the date of such appointment. The Speaker consults the various party leaders for sending the names of their members to serve on the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee is nominated by the Speaker from amongst the members of the Committee. In making selection from a panel of names submitted by the leaders of various parties and groups, the Speaker gives preference to those who have legal background and experience as the nature of this Committee is legal and specialised.

Scope of Functions of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation: The objective of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation is to ensure unanimity of procedure in rule-making. Its efforts are complementary in nature. It is, therefore, ensured that in discharging their duties the members of the Committee do not act in hostility to the Executive. The Executive is expected to comply with the wishes of Parliament and frame rules and regulations in accordance with the law. Sometimes, Executive agencies are bound to commit mistakes. The job of the Committee is to put them on their right track and guide them in the proper discharge of their duties for the benefit of the people.

Generally, the rules, regulations, bye-laws and orders are framed by the officials who may not be well versed with ground realities. As such they have their own approach. Their actions, therefore, are bound to affect adversely the interests of the people. The members of the Committee who represent the masses, understand their problems better and, therefore, see to it that the intentions of Parliament and the interests of the people are properly taken care of. They have to safeguard the public interest and eliminate, as far as possible, the abuse of authority or any encroachment on parliamentary sovereignty.

* A similar Committee of the Rajya Sabha was first constituted on 30 September 1964. The Committee consists of fifteen members who are nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and it holds office until a new Committee is constituted.

Rule 317 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and Direction 103 issued by the Speaker define the scope of functions of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation which extends to the examination of all 'Orders', *i.e.*, rules, regulations, bye-laws, etc. issued under the provisions of the Constitution or an Act of Parliament, delegating legislative functions to a subordinate authority to make such orders.

Rule 319 provides that each regulation, rule, sub-rule, bye-law, etc., framed in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution or the legislative functions delegated by Parliament to a subordinate authority and which is required to be laid before the House, hereinafter referred to as 'Order', shall, subject to such orders as the Speaker may in consultation with the Leader of the House prescribes, be numbered centrally and published in the Gazette immediately after its promulgation.

As per Rule 320, of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, after each such order as referred to in Rule 319, is laid before the House, the Committee shall in particular consider:—(i) whether it is in accord with the general objects of the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made; (ii)whether it contains matter which in the opinion of the Committee should more properly be dealt with in an Act of Parliament; (iii) whether it contains imposition of any tax; (iv) whether it directly or indirectly bars the jurisdiction of the courts; (v) whether it gives retrospective effect to any of the provisions in respect of which the Constitution or the Act does not expressly give any such power; (vi) whether it involves expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India or the public revenues; (vii) whether it appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the Constitution or the Act pursuant to which it is made; (viii) whether there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in its publication or in laying it before Parliament; and (ix) whether for any reason its form or purport calls for any elucidation.

It may be observed from the above that the rules of procedure have enumerated all the important aspects relating to the scrutiny of subordinate legislation by the Committee.

As the Committee on Subordinate Legislation is the custodian of the authority of Parliament in the legislative sphere, it has also to see if any tax is imposed by Subordinate Legislation. The power to impose tax is vested in Parliament in terms of article 265 of the Constitution which provides that no tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law. The taxing power, therefore, cannot be delegated. The Committee has, therefore, to see that no regulation or rule authorises the imposition or collection of any tax. It has also to ensure that no penal provision is made in Subordinate Legislation.

In terms of article 114(1) of the Constitution, any appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India can be made only by a Bill passed by the House of the People with the concurrence of the Council of States. The Executive orders cannot, therefore, authorise the Government to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Fund of India. It is also for the Committee to see that the constitutional provisions are not violated by the power-wielding wing of the Government insofar as the appropriation of money is concerned.

While examining the rules, regulations, etc., if the Committee feels that the Executive has transgressed the limits of powers, it can decide to call for the evidence of the Secretaries of the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India and after considering the whole matter, can report to the House the decisions arrived at by it. The decisions are taken by the Committee unanimously and there is no minute of dissent to the report. The reports are presented to the House by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

Implementation of the Committee's Recommendations

(i) Procedural Aspects: The procedure regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of Lok Sabha is set forth in Direction 108(1) and 108(2) of the Directions by the Speaker, which read as follows:

> "108 (1)—The Ministries shall be required to furnish, from time to time, to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, statements of action taken or proposed to be taken by them on the recommendations made by the Committee in their reports and on the assurances given by the Ministries in the course of their correspondence with the Committee. The information so received shall be placed before the Committee in the form of a memorandum with the approval of the Chairman."
>
> "108(2)—In case where any Ministry is not in a position to implement, or feels any difficulty in giving effect to a recommendation made by the Committee, the Ministry shall place its views before the Committee which, if it thinks fit, present a further report to the House after considering the views of the Ministry in the matter."

If no reply regarding action taken/proposed to be taken on a recommendation of the Committee is received from the Ministry/Department concerned within a period of three months from the presentation of the Committee's Report to the House, the Committee may ask the representatives of the Ministry/Department concerned, to explain the delay in person. In extreme cases, the Chairman of the Committee may write to the Minister, and the matter may be raised in the House.

In cases where a Ministry is not in a position to implement or feels any difficulty in giving effect to a recommendation of the Committee, it may adopt one of the following three courses:—

(i) It may accept the views of the Ministry and decide not to pursue its recommendation;

(ii) It may modify its earlier recommendation to win over the difficulties pointed out by the Ministry; or

(iii) It may not accept the explanation of the Ministry and decide to reiterate its earlier recommendation for implementation.

In cases where the Government does not accept a recommendation, after it has been reiterated by the Committee, before making a further report, the Committee generally hears the representatives of the Ministry concerned in regard to their difficulties in implementing the recommendation. As a result of mutual exchanges of views between the Committee and the representatives of the Government during the course of evidence, a satisfactory solution is generally found out. In a few cases where the Committee is not convinced Government's explanation even after hearing oral evidence, it may reiterate its earlier recommendation. If considered necessary, the Chairman can discuss the matter with the Minister concerned. This procedure has worked smoothly.

It is seldom that a recommendation about which the Committee feels strongly remains unimplemented.

(ii) Procedural Change: Prior to August 1955, the Committee examined, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 320 of the Rules of Procedure, only those statutory rules and orders which were laid on the Table of the House. Thereafter, it decided to examine all rules whether laid on the Table or not. This practice has since been embodied in Direction 103(1) of the Directions by the Speaker. The 'Orders' to be examined by the Committee have to be made by a subordinate law-making body and have to be legislative in character. The Committee, however, does not, as a matter of practice, examine Executive orders which are not in the nature of delegated legislation.

Recommendations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation : An Impact Assessment

Since its inception in December 1953, the Committee on Subordinate Legislation has presented numerous instructive and informative reports regarding functioning of delegated legislation in India. Many of the recommendations of the Committee were accepted and implemented. The range and variety of subjects dealt with by the Committee can best be illustrated by recounting some of the important recommendations contained in its various reports. The impact and evaluation of the Committee's recommendations in select cases is briefly discussed in the succeeding paragraphs.

Delegation of Legislative Powers: One of the important safeguards against assumption of arbitrary powers by the Executive is that rules framed by the Executive in exercise of delegated powers should not only be required to be laid before the Legislature but that it should also have the statutory right of annulling or modifying them. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation of Lok Sabha in its Second Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) approved the following provision for incorporation in all Acts/Bills providing for delegation of legislative power:—

> "Every rule made by the Central Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may comprise one session or two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification to the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be;....."

In pursuance of the above recommendation of the Committee, Parliament enacted two comprehensive pieces of legislation, *viz.*, the Delegated Legislation Provisions (Amendment) Act, 1983 and the Delegated Legislation Provisions (Amendment) Act, 1985 incorporating the requisite provisions for laying of rules before each House of Parliament in the case of more than 140 old Acts which did not previously contain them.

As, in the absence of a statutory requirement, Government may not *suo motu* lay the rules on the Table, the Committee in its Fourteenth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) recommended amendments to the relevant Acts so as to make a provision for laying of rules. It further recommended that all Ministries/Departments should undertake an examination of all the Acts with which they are administratively concerned in order to find out those which do not contain a provision for laying of rules framed thereunder and to incorporate this provision in the Acts at the earliest. The Committee examined every Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha or transmitted by the Rajya Sabha to see whether it contained a provision for laying and modification on the lines approved by it.

The Committee has done a very useful work to minimise the inherent risk of improper exercise of the rule-making powers. The Committee has insisted in its very first report presented to the House on 17 March 1954 that in respect of Bills containing proposals for delegation of legislative powers, a memorandum should accompany the Bill. Such a memorandum should state clearly to which subordinate authority such delegation is made and also the points which may be covered by the rules and the manner in which such powers should be exercised.

Discretionary Powers: The root of abuse of exercising powers delegated to the Executive lies in unfettered and unguided discretionary powers. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation has made a number of recommendations in this regard. The following are some of the broad principles underlying the relevant recommendations of the Committee:—

(i) As far as possible, the rules should be self-contained and drafted in a manner that no difficulty is caused to the public in locating and referencing the rules.

(ii) In cases where the authority concerned deviates from a norm, it should be required to record in writing the reasons for such a deviation.

(iii) Rules should conform to the principles of natural justice. Before any adverse action is taken against a party, it should be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard; and after a decision adversely affecting a party has been taken, the affected party should have the right of appeal or representation, as the case may be.

(iv) Rules should be self contained and legislation by reference should be avoided.

(v) Substantive provisions should not be included in the rules so as to override the provisions of the main statute.

(vi) In case of seizures and searches, the minimum rank of the officer so authorised by the Government should be indicated.

(vii) As far as possible, the use of complicated language in the rules should be avoided. The rules should be specific and definite.

(viii) All rules framed by the Government pursuant to constitutional or statutory provisions, should invariably be published in the Gazette for public information.

(ix) Only matters of procedure and details should be spelt out through subordinate legislation. Substantial matters should more appropriately be dealt with in the Act itself.

(x) No charges should be levied unless there is an express authorisation thereof in the parent law.

Framing of Rules: There is no statutory provision which prescribes the period within which rules under an Act ought to be framed. Normally, rules should be framed as early as possible after the enforcement of an Act, as non-framing of rules leaves the area of Executive discretion wide. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation examined the question whether any period should be fixed for framing rules. It also obtained the views of various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India in this regard. The view expressed by the Ministries/Departments was that rule-making power was an enabling provision and they could make rules as and when considered necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Act. Taking into account the view of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee examined several Acts which delegated rule-making powers and found that in a number of cases, the rule-making powers were not exercised at all, while in certain other cases, rules were framed after an inordinate delay. In this regard the Committee in its Fifth Report (Second Lok Sabha) observed as follows:—

> "It has been brought to the notice of the Committee that in the cases of certain Acts the rule-making power was not exercised at all by the Government, while in some other Acts the rules were framed after inordinate delay. It was not clear to the

Committee how the Acts which provided for certain matters to be regulated by rules, were administered in the absence of any rules.

In this connection, the Committee considered the question (as to) whether it was desirable to impose any time limit within which rules should be framed under an Act. The Committee also had the benefit of the views of the Government on this question.

The Committee considered that ordinarily rules should be framed under an Act as soon as possible after the commencement of the Act and in no case this period should exceed six months. If no rules are framed within a reasonable period after the commencement of the Act, the Committee will take up the matter with the Ministry concerned and report to the House the cases where it is felt that undue delay has occurred in framing the rules."

Subsequently, in its Eighteenth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), the Committee reiterated it views as under:

".....Ordinarily rules should be framed under an Act as soon as possible after the commencement of the Act and in no case this period should exceed six months. In case, however, a Ministry/ Department finds that for any unavoidable reasons it is not possible for it to adhere to the prescribed time-limit in an exceptional case, it should at the expiration of six months period from the commencement of the relevant Act, explain the reasons to the Committee and seek a specific extension of time from them."

In pursuance of the aforesaid views/ recommendation of the Committee, the procedure for framing of rules within the prescribed time-frame has been streamlined to some extent. Now the requests are generally made to the Committee from the concerned Ministries/Departments seeking extension of time to frame the rules when they are not able to frame the same within the stipulated time frame. However, delays in framing of rules still continue to occur.

With a view to ensuring timely framing of rules under the Acts passed by Parliament, the Committee in its Twenty-fourth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) recommended as under:—

"(i) The framing of draft rules should be initiated simultaneously with the drafting of the proposed Bill so that the draft rules become ready by the time the Bill is introduced in the House.

(ii) Whenever a Bill is introduced in Parliament and in particular those Bills which propose the setting up of a Commission or Tribunal, there should be a 'Note' in the Memorandum of Delegated Legislation appended to the Bill to the effect that the draft rules have also been prepared under that Bill.

(iii) To overcome undue delays on account of protracted inter-ministerial correspondence or where consultation with the Ministry of Law or other Ministries/Departments is involved, the concerned Ministry should convene meetings of all the concerned agencies so that the matters could be sorted out at the earliest without entering into protracted correspondence."

Giving Retrospective Effect to the Provisions of Rules: In terms of Rule 320 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of Lok Sabha, while scrutinizing rules, regulations, etc., examines *inter alia* whether retrospective effect has been given to any of the provisions in respect of which the Constitution or the Act under which they have been framed does not expressly give any such power. In this connection, the Committee in its Seventh Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) noted the following observation of the Attorney-General:—

"The Legislature may make a law with retrospective effect. A particular provision of a law made by the Legislature may operate retrospectively if the law expressly or by necessary intendment so enacts. A law made by the Legislature may itself further empower subordinate legislation to be operative retrospectively. Without such a law no subordinate legislation can have any retrospective effect....."

The reason for disfavouring retrospective operation of laws is that it may prejudicially affect vested rights. The Committee in its Second Report (Fourth Lok Sabha), therefore, recommended that normally all rules, regulations, etc., should be published before the date of their application. However, if in any particular case, the rules have to be given retrospective effect in view of any unavoidable circumstance, a clarification should be given either by way of an explanation in the rules or in the form of a footnote to the relevant rules to the effect that no one will be adversely affected as a result of retrospective effect being given to such rules.

Jurisdiction of Courts: The Committee has expressed its feeling time and again that the provision pertaining to the jurisdiction of the Courts is a substantive one and more appropriately provided in the Act itself. Sometimes, the wording of the rule is so vague that it may lead to abuse of exercise of power, especially when the Executive makes efforts to oust the authority of the Court. The Committee in this regard has opined that it is not appropriate to determine the structure of power of the Courts by the rules made by subordinate authority. It is the duty of the Courts to see that the rules made thereunder are being followed by the competent authorities in a proper perspective. In case, it is necessary to oust the jurisdiction of Courts with regard to some technical defects or routine matters, there should be a clear authority from the Parliament itself to that effect. It is necessary that such proposals should be brought before the House and included in the appropriate Acts after full opportunities had been given to the House to discuss the matter and to arrive at a considered decision. It is beyond the competence of the rule-making authorities to oust the jurisdiction of the Courts by inserting such provisions in the rules. If this practice is allowed to prevail then there would be transgression of the limits of the rule-making powers of the Executive authorities without any check by the Courts of law. The Committee has directed that it should be borne in mind by the rule-making authorities that they do not transgress the authority given in the law.

Publicity to Statutory Rules: The people are often caught unawares by the rules. It is, therefore, very essential to give publicity to Statutory Rules or Orders all over India in such a way that the public are aware of them and understand them properly. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation has made recommendations in this regard too.

Certain Acts provide that the rules should be published in the first instance in draft form inviting public comments thereon and thereafter finalised in the light of public comments received. But experience shows that practically no time is given to the public for sending their comments. The Committee has expressed its concern over this state of affairs and held the view that when the Acts give a right to the public to send their comments on certain draft rules, it is desirable that sufficient time is given to them to study the draft and send their comments before the draft is finalised. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation in its Eighteenth Report (Sixth Lok Sabha) has prescribed a period of not less than thirty clear days to the public to send their comments on such drafts.

Drafting of Subordinate Legislation: The recommendations made by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of Lok Sabha have contributed a lot towards drafting of subordinate legislation in a more systematic, uniform and precise manner. It is in pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee that every statutory order now bears a centrally allocated serial number, short-title, date of its commencement, a preamble indicating the statutory authority under which it has been framed and the particulars of publication of the Principal Order and the subsequent amendments made thereto in the case of amending orders.

The Committee has also made very useful recommendations to remove several lacunae and deficiencies in the recruitment rules framed and notified by various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India under the power conferred on them by article 309 of the Constitution. Some of these recommendations are as follows:—

(i) The composition of the Departmental Promotion Committee should be incorporated in the rules themselves.

(ii) In order to obviate scope for speculation, a provision regarding consultation with UPSC should be incorporated expressly in the rules.

(iii) The period of deputation should ordinarily not exceed three years.

(iv) Inclusion in the Rules the disqualification clause on account of plural marriage and amend the Rules accordingly.

(v) Recruitment rules should provide for recording of reasons in writing in cases where probation period is extended or reduced.

(vi) Rules should provide for communicating the reasons for extension of the period of the probation. Besides, with a view to ensuring objectivity and justice in the related matters a suitable machinery like a Departmental Committee consisting of senior officials be devised to go into the case fully.

(vii) The period of probation prescribed for appointees to a post should be the same whether they are appointed by direct recruitment or promotion.

(viii) Rules should be amended so as to provide therein (a) that every employee or officer should complete the period of probation satisfactorily without any curtailment of the probation period on any ground and (b) that opportunity is given to appeal against an order for extension of probation period.

(ix) Suitable guidelines should be laid for the guidance of the appointing authority for taking decision regarding extension of probation period.

(x) Recruitment rules, in particular, should have a saving clause to the effect that nothing shall affect reservations and other concessions required to be provided for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons, in accordance with the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in this regard.

(xi) The existence of a proviso providing that "the unfilled vacancies in the direct recruitment quota could be filled by promotion in case sufficient number of direct recruitment candidates were not available" should be deleted as it was discriminatory to the interest of direct recruits.

The above recommendations of the Committee have generally been circulated to all the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions by way of "instructions to be followed" while framing the recruitment rules. All such recommendations relating to recruitment rules have now been incorporated in a consolidated form in the publication entitled "Hand Book on Recruitment Rules" brought out by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in the year 1996, for being used as a comprehensive reference book by the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, while framing/amending the recruitment rules.

The above analysis shows that the Committee's scrutiny of the rules, regulations, bye-laws, etc., framed by the subordinate agencies in exercise of the powers delegated to them by Parliament has been highly effective and often full of considerable insight.

Conclusion

With the ever-widening scope of governmental activities in a welfare state such as ours, subordinate legislation has become a necessity. However, risks are inherent in such a legislation, as there is every likelihood that the subordinate authorities might transgress the limits laid down by Parliament while exercising their rule-making powers. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Lok Sabha, as an effective tool of legislative control, has been unremittingly overseeing the Executive actions in the exercise of delegated powers. Since its inception, the Committee has functioned in a non-partisan manner and constructively guided the Executive agencies in playing their legislative role judiciously. Having functioned entirely free from control/interference from any quarters, the performance of the Committee over the years has been quite satisfactory in checking and eliminating the chances of possible transgression of the authority prescribed by Parliament.

6

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS IN LOK SABHA*

In parliamentary parlance, all members of Parliament, other than Ministers, whether belonging to the ruling party or the opposition are known as private members. The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha afford ample opportunity to private members to play an important role in the functioning of our parliamentary system by allowing them to give notices of Bills and Resolutions on matters of general public interest which they would like to be taken up in the House for discussion and necessary legislation. The Bills and Resolutions initiated by them are, therefore, termed as private members' Bills and Resolutions.

The device of private members' Bills and Resolutions has been in vogue in India since 1921. It, however, grew mainly after the constitution of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha in 1952. A major step forward was taken in 1953 when the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions was set up in the Lok Sabha for the first time. Soon after its constitution, the Committee laid down guidelines and prescribed procedures for consideration of Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

Importance of Private Members' Bills

The system of Private Members Bills has great utility in the working of our Parliament in many ways.

First, the private members can introduce Bills on any subject ranging from suggesting far-reaching amendments to either the Constitution or an existing statute to suggesting new legislative measures to combat the current evils facing the nation. The system, thus, provides opportunity to bring forward such legislative proposals as are not in the Government's own programme.

Second, during discussion on Private Members' Bills, many valuable suggestions are given by members and are forcefully voiced by them in order to exert pressure on the Government to take suitable action on the Bills. Even the discussions on Private Members' Bills which, though do not eventually pass, serve a very useful purpose. The unsuccessful Bills too have their value as part of the critical processes of the House in requiring the Executive to justify its acts and its refusals to act. They can also test the Government's reaction to the reforms/measures proposed by the private members.

Third, one might have noticed that usually only senior members of different political parties take active part in important parliamentary dèbates. However, in the arena of private members' business, even other members have ample opportunity to effectively express their views. They can sponsor legislation, initiate debate and set the tone for the discussion. On many occasions the legislations sponsored by the private members are supported by all sections of the House cutting across party lines. In fact, private members' business enables all sections of the House, including the backbenchers, to express their opinion which, due to constraints of time, is not possible in the case of a Government Bill.

Fourth, in a country like ours, there is always considerable scope for several welfare measures by making suitable improvements in the existing statutes or by sponsoring new legislation. Private members do not lag behind in bringing to the attention of the House and the Government the problems faced by the people in several spheres.

Fifth, a private member is more suited than the Government to take initiative since he is less subject to various kinds of pressures. The Government, though it may be greatly concerned with the fulfilment of its duties and responsibilities, may not be prepared to take such unpopular actions/initiatives as may adversely affect its electoral prospects.

*Contributed by Legislative Branch-II, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Apart from the above, the system enables the members to activate themselves to think and act, to develop their parliamentary personality, to speak in the House on a subject for a greater length of time which otherwise is not available during a normal discussion, to form and project public opinion, etc. The system also provides necessary opportunity to each individual member who wants to make good use of his/her talent for articulating people's problems.

Private Members' Bills Introduced during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Just like some of the earlier Lok Sabhas, the Twelfth Lok Sabha also did not last its full term. However, during the span of just thirteen months, a good number of Private Members' Bills (122) were introduced. The subject matters of these Bills were wide-ranging. To illustrate, Bills suggesting remedy for social evils, improvements in the existing welfare measures, new welfare measures for the benefit of the old and the weaker sections of the society including women, improvements in educational facilities and general administration of the country, measures to cope with universal problems like AIDS, increasing population, pollution, etc., were introduced by the private members during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Details of private members' Bills introduced/considered, sittings held for their consideration and time taken thereon during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are given in the following Table:

Private Members' Bills during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session	Bills			Time Taken		Percentage of Total Time Taken (During the Session)
	No. of Bills Introduced	No. of Bills Considered	No. of Sittings during which Bills were Considered	Hrs.	Mts.	
First	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil
Second	57	2	3	7	10	2.50
Third	55	2	2	4	30	4.60
Fourth	10	Nil	Nil	0	11	0.10
Total:	122	4	5	11	51	2.08*

*Percentage of total time of the House (575 hrs.)

Certain examples of the Constitution (Amendment) Bills introduced by the private members during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are given below to show how important have been the legislative proposals brought before the House by them.

Considering that the Ninth and the Eleventh Lok Sabhas could not complete their full term, Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar, a member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, introduced a Bill titled 'The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1998 (insertion of new article 75A, etc.)' proposing that the House of the People/the Legislative Assembly of a State shall express its lack of confidence in the Prime Minister/Chief Minister and his Council of Ministers only by electing his successor through a composite motion supported by majority of the total members of the House concerned with a view to completing five years tenure of the respective Houses.

Another important Bill titled 'The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1999 (insertion of new articles 75A and 164A),' was introduced by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, also a member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, suggesting that there shall be appointed a caretaker Government during the period from the announcement of general elections to the constitution of the new House and the caretaker Prime Minister/Chief Minister and other Ministers shall neither belong to any political party nor be entitled to contest election. The caretaker Government shall, however, not be entitled to take any major decisions.

Yet another Bill titled 'The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1998 (amendment of articles 302 and 304),' introduced by Shri Amar Pal Singh contained proposals for doing away with restrictions on the freedom of trade and movement of agricultural produce within any part of the territory of India.

The above Bills could not, however, be considered before the premature dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Private Members' Resolutions

Another important arena of private members' business is Private Members' Resolutions. Like the Private Members' Bills, Private Members' Resolutions also exert considerable pressure on the Executive to respond positively to the issues raised in the Resolutions. A Resolution, just like a Private Members' Bill, seeks to generate opinion of the House on any topical issue. Considering that for each day allotted for Resolutions there is a separate ballot, members give resolutions on subjects which are topical in nature and concern current problems.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, two resolutions came up for discussion. The first Resolution moved by Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey urging upon the Government to formulate a new National Housing Policy evoked an interesting debate and was supported by members belonging to all parties. The member, however, withdrew the Resolution upon positive response by the Minister concerned. Another important Resolution moved by Dr. Asim Bala to frame a comprehensive policy to improve the functioning of public sector undertakings was also discussed in the House. The Resolution, however, lapsed on the dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

The House devoted 8 hours and 13 minutes, constituting 1.44 per cent of the total time of the House, on the disscussion on these two Private Members' Resolutions.

Support of the House

The time allotted for private members' business is limited and, therefore, not many Bills come up for discussion. As a good deal of time is taken on disposal of each Bill and the number of Private Members' Bills introduced being considerably large, a member considers himself lucky if the Bill introduced by him does come up for discussion. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, only four Bills could be taken up for discussion. Of these, a Bill making it the fundamental duty of every candidate not to seek votes in the name of religion or by inciting religious feelings, introduced by Shri Mohan Singh found favour with all sections of the House. Though the Bill did not get through, the wholehearted support voiced by all the members forced the Government to respond positively to the suggestions made in the Bill. Another Bill, introduced by Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat, which sought to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 with a view to mitigating the difficulties of the aggrieved persons relating to ownership of land, received over-whelming support from all sections of the House. The member, however, withdrew the Bill upon an assurance from the Minister concerned that the Government would bring in a suitable legislation in this regard.

Regulation of Private Members' Business

To regulate private members' business, there is a Committee called the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. The Committee consists of 15 members drawn from various political parties according to their respective strength in the House and is headed by the Deputy Speaker. The members of the Committee are nominated by the Speaker and its term is one year. The functions of the Committee are:— (a) examination of Constitution (Amendment) Bills, notices of which have been given by private members, before they are included in the List of Business for introduction; (b) categorisation of Bills either in category 'A' or in category 'B' according to their nature, urgency and importance; (c) allocation of time to Bills and Resolutions for their discussion; and (d) any other matter relating to private members' business. The Committee generally holds its sittings during session periods only. The Committee presents a report in respect of each sitting and the same is adopted by the House just before the transaction of private members' business. The Committee generally performs the same functions in relation to private members' business as the Business Advisory Committee does in regard to Government business.

Impact and Evaluation

A general impression is that considerable time is spent by the House in private members' business which could be best utilised for other activities. To set this myth at rest, it may be stated that many legislative measures sponsored by private members have found favour with the Government and suitable action through comprehensive legislative or appropriate administrative measures has been taken by the Government. In fact, private members' business is one of the devices provided to the members to express their opinion and to bring to the notice of the Government the grievances of the people of their constituency or of the nation as a whole.

Parliamentary democracy in India has stood the test of time since Independence and is steadily gaining strength. However, during the last fifty years certain shortcomings have been noticed in the system and there has been considerable debate in the public to rid the system of its maladies. There has in fact been a constant demand for giving another look at our Constitution in order to meet the contemporary political, economic and social needs of the people. The private members have evinced keen interest in sponsoring Constitution (Amendment) Bills in order to suggest new measures to meet the aspirations of the people on which our democracy has been founded. It is noteworthy that almost one-third of private members' Bills introduced in every Lok Sabha were to amend the Constitution.

So far 14 private members' Bills have been enacted into law. Of these 9 were introduced in the Lok Sabha*. These were–(i) The Muslim Wakfs Bill, 1952–to provide for better governance and administration of Muslim Wakfs and the supervision of *Mutawallis* management; (ii) The Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill, 1955–to remove the anomaly regarding the recording of Castes and Sub-Castes of parties mentioned in a deed for registration in States; (iii) The Proceedings of Parliament (Protection of Publication) Bill, 1956**–to define by law the protection available to publications made in good faith of reports of proceedings of Legislatures; (iv) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1953– to amend Section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in order to empower the revisional courts to stay or suspend the final orders of lower courts; (v) The Women's and Children's Institutions (Licensing) Bill, 1953–to protect women and children from exploitation and also to regulate and license orphanages and other institutions caring for women and children under 18 years of age and to provide for the proper custody, care and training of their inmates; (vi) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1957–with the object that when a person aggrieved due to the offence of bigamy was a woman, the police might make a complaint on her behalf to the Magistrate, if the information of this offence was given to police; (vii) The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1964–to increase the salary of members of Parliament; (viii) The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 1964–to provide the right to apply for divorce on the ground that cohabitation has not been resumed for a space of two years or more after the passing of a decree for judicial separation to both the husband and wife and not only for the party who has obtained the decree in such case; and (ix) The Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968–to enlarge the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in regard to criminal matters.

It has also been observed that official legislations based on private members' Bills have been brought forward by the Government in several cases and in a number of cases the objectives of the private members' Bills have been achieved by appropriate administrative action of the Government in respect of the matters raised in the Bills. A few cases of far-reaching nature where mere introduction of the Bills by private members hastened the Government to bring forward its own Bills for necessary enactments even before these were discussed in the House were–(i) Constitution (Twenty-ninth Amendment) Act, 1972 (which sought the constitutional protection to the Kerala Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1971); (ii) Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954; (iii) Special Courts (Repeal) Act, 1982 (which sought the liquidation of the Special Courts constituted as a follow-up action on Shah Commission Report); (iv) Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956; and (v) National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

* The remaining five Bills were introduced in the Rajya Sabha: (i) The Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Bill, 1956; (ii) The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 1956; (iii) The Orphanages and Other Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Bill, 1960; (iv) The Marine Insurance Bill, 1963; and (v) The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1967.

** Also known as the Feroze Gandhi Bill.

Besides, there has been a number of Private Members' Bills which were either withdrawn or negatived and on the lines of which no legislative measure has ever been brought by the Government. However, the suggestions contained in these Bills have been implemented by the Government through the Executive orders. Notably, setting up of the Agricultural Prices Commission (now the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices), the Inter-State Council and the Multi-Member Election Commission has been the result of Executive orders issued by the Government keeping in view the suggestions made by private members in the Bills introduced by them in this regard.

In any case, the tone for action by the Government is set in once a Private Member's Bill is introduced in the House. In fact, the interest created by members in the private members' business has forced the Presiding Officers of Legislatures to allot more time for discussion on a Bill or a Resolution than the time fixed for it originally.

Conclusion

Private members' business in parliamentary activities has helped foster a strong and vibrant democracy. It has enabled all sections of the House including the backbenchers to present their views on contemporary issues. Notwithstanding the fact that in the last fifty years the system of Private Members' Bills has not achieved appreciable results in the shape of Bills being transformed into enactments, it has contributed substantially to the working of our parliamentary system. To conclude, private members' business is an important and integral part of parliamentary activity. It will not be an exaggeration to say that private members' business will set the tone for many important welfare measures and activities inside and outside the Parliament in the years to come.

7

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PARLIAMENT*

Introduction

The human society is undergoing a sea change due to phenomenal growth of information and application of information technologies (IT) in the form of high degree of computerization and transmission of electronic information in all walks of life. Information technologies provide an excellent tool for storing, processing, transferring and exchanging of information. The new technologies have on the one hand accelerated research and development, and led to what is called the 'information explosion', and on the other have had its impact on storage, retrieval and dissemination of information. The convergence of disciplines covering computers, telecommunications, CD-ROM and multimedia technologies have contributed substantially towards the growth of 'Information Technology'. These developments have transformed the life of everybody from the legislator to the common man in one way or another. Even the most illiterate voter living in the remote areas stands to benefit, both directly and indirectly, from the qualitative changes, which have taken place due to technology. The 'Information Revolution' and the speed and means through which information is shared by people everywhere, are only some of the many visible impacts of the enormous potential, that the advances in various technologies offer to mankind. Like in the case of several other fields, the field of politics and political processes has also been significantly influenced by these developments.

Need for Information Technology

Information or recorded knowledge is static unless it is used. The use of information makes in kinetic and generates more knowledge. Thus new science and technology rest firmly on foundations laid by the information generated in the past, and the efficiency of present information transfer. Further, the need of this technology arose partly due to the concept of multi-media documents, *i.e.*, the conventional printed book also taking up other forms such as micro-form, sound records/cassettes, computer tapes, video cassettes/films which require special equipment for their processing and partly to meet the requirement of fast and accurate information and it transfers over long distances.

We are going through a revolution in information technology which is transforming the way knowledge is stored and exchanged; touching the very core of our culture. This is the era of information explosion in which large amount of information is being generated at every moment. The ability to collect, store and disseminate the large amount of information has become a vital tool or basis of power, possession of which reveals political, economic and social advantages over other groups. Technological advancements are also emerging equally fast as the expectation level to cope with the large amount of information or to meet the challenge of ever increasing amount of information.

The invention and increasing use of computers in various fields of human activity prove that the computer is an essential instrument for all round development. There has been a tremendous growth in the use of computer and this growth has considerably influenced the retrieval and dissemination of information. Computer's entry and its continuance in almost all fields of human endeavour are due to its invincible qualities, *viz.* the remarkable speed to act in nanoseconds, the superb capabilities to do unmanageable and impossible looking things, the unlimited capacity to store immense quantities of information on the tiny storage medium,

*Contributed by Computer Centre, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

capability to perform repetitive jobs without fatigue and the mind-boggling capacity to sort, arrange, retrieve and disseminate information instantly.

This technology can crunch numbers and convert information into bits so as to process it speedily, economically and efficiently. And this information in electronic media can be transmitted anywhere almost instantly. A user sitting at the personal work station can easily manipulate large blocks of data or text, can store the same and rapidly, revise it, have online access to bibliographic and informational database, as well as communicate with users on a world-wide basis.

Information like books, pictures, movies and music, instead of being physically stored in libraries, or video/audio films and cassettes is now stored in giant memories of computers. Any person anywhere can dial these electronic libraries and access the same through his PC. This technological advancement has facilitated and offered immense opportunities of networking transcending geographical boundaries.

Information superhighway is said to be the most advanced means of networking. It envisions a globe where means of telecommunications are totally integrated. By networking personal computers, television sets and the telecommunication facilities information can be brought to the user's desk and one is able to access data from distant libraries, conduct video conferences with colleagues and watch movies of one's choice.

Internet, the largest world-wide network linking almost all the countries with more than 10 million host computers is the best example of information superhighway. It is also described as the network of networks. Each country has a backbone network that operates traffic at a very high speed and carries the bulk of the traffic. Smaller networks are in turn connected to the backbone network. Part of the growth of Internet is attributable to the fact that even a desktop PC can be connected directly and made a 'node' on the Internet. It is most commonly used for sending E-mail, which costs less than a postage stamp. It is cheaper, faster and more dependable than long distance telephone or the postal service. E-mail has become the standard means by which one can keep himself in touch with others across geographical boundaries.

Impact of Technological Advancements on Parliamentary Functioning

Parliament, today is not only the law making body. It has become more and more a multi-dimensional and multi-functional institution performing a variety of roles—many of these inter-related and often meshing into one another. Legislators too have to cope with changing situations both nationally and internationally.

By the use of IT, the Legislator and the voter individually and the collective body of the Legislature can derive the benefit of being 'informed' and as such the inputs going into the decision making processes, including the fundamental democratic process, are made more objective and the decisions arising out of such processes are more appropriate, fool-proof and more and more socially relevant.

The immense possibilities which the 'giant information infrastructure'—the information superhighway, opens up could transform the style of functioning of people everywhere in the world, especially of those in public affairs. Considering the scope and variety of subjects they have to deal with, the potential for information that the 'Internet' offers could be of great use to the parliamentarians. Today, through the Internet, one is able to convey and also receive varieties of information on almost every subject. Basic information about various political systems, Parliaments of different countries, their history, information about the Parliamentarians and statesmen of different countries, about inter-parliamentary associations, etc. which could help the parliamentarians considerably in their day-to-day functioning could be easily accessed through the Internet. It could act as a kind of global library to the parliamentarians, who are always in need of factual, objective and equitable information.

The computer-aided electronic mail system (E-mail) also facilitates interactive, low-cost, and instant communication with almost infinite accessibility for Parliaments as also for parliamentarians. Considering the volume of mail they have to deal with, easy and cheap access to E-mail could simplify the task of parliamentarians everywhere in the world. This facility can also be used to conduct debate on various topics through discussion groups.

Indian Scenario

India has taken significant steps in developing information technology to assist its parliamentarians in the effective discharge of their duties. They need factual and objective, brief and to the point information in order to be able to judge each issue on its merits and to articulate their views effectively in Parliament in conformity with their own ideology and perception.

Such information may be required by them quite often in the House itself or in the Committee or sometimes even on their breakfast table for party or constituency work. They hardly have the time to spend hours in the Library or even cursorily glance through the mass of literature piling up on their desks to search and locate the right information required at a given point of time. Time, therefore, is of essence and if the required information is not available to them within the stipulated time, the whole exercise becomes infructuous.

As elsewhere in the world, the Library of the Indian Parliament has realised the need for modern information technology in meeting the information requirements of its clientele. With this perspective in mind, a modest beginning towards automation was made in December 1985 with the setting up a computerised information service, namely, Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS). The computerisation programme has taken a quantum jump in the succeeding years and almost all the activities of Lok Sabha Secretariat are now in the process of automation.

Parliamentary Databases

To make available non-partisan, objective and reliable information and authoritative data on a continuous and regular basis to the parliamentarians, a large number of index based databases of information generated within the Parliament was initially developed by the Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS). The data currently available for on-line retrieval relate to:

(i) Selected Parliamentary Questions (Indexes) from 1985 onwards;

(ii) Parliamentary Debates (Indexes from 1985 to 1999);

(iii) Bio-data of members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (from 1985 to 1999);

(iv) Government and Private Members' Bills (Indexes) 1985 onwards;

(v) Council of Ministers from 1952;

(vi) President's Rule in States and Union territories from 1951;

(vii) Obituary References since 1926;

(viii) Catalogues of Publications available in Parliament Library (since 1992); and

(ix) Indexes of important articles selected for Parliamentary Documentation.

Library management functions like acquisition, processing and issue and return of books have been computerised using the software package known as LIBSYS. Members can access the catalogue of the Library through the terminals installed at the counters of the Library. In addition, indexes of important articles published in newspapers and journals and publications of national and international organisations are also available through the terminals. Subject bibliographies and select lists of publications on various subjects are also provided to members on request.

Parliament of India Web page on INTERNET

The "Parliament of India Home Page" on the world-wide web site of Internet became operational on 15 March 1996. The information contained in the documents of the Indian Parliament, which till now existed in printed form, is being converted to an electronic one, so that people across the political and geographical barriers can have access to them. Currently the following documents are available on the home page :

(i) The Constitution of India;

(ii) Important speeches of the President of India (1996 onwards);

(iii) Constituent Assembly Debates;

(iv) Union Budget 1999-2000;

(v) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha;

(vi) Directions by the Speaker;

(vii) Decisions from the Chair;

(viii) Bills and Policies (from 1991 onwards);

(ix) Bio-data of members of Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabhas;

(x) Bio-data of members of present Rajya Sabha; and

(xi) Parliamentary Debates (Lok Sabha Debates beginning with the Tenth Lok Sabha in July 1991).

A comprehensive introduction to the Constitution, functioning of the Parliament and facilities provided to the members and the visitors is also given. Worldwide access to this site can be had at the Internet address: http://alfa.nic.in

Computer facilities for Members of Parliament

Keeping in view the immediate information requirements of the parliamentarians to discharge their duties in an effective manner, computer facilities have been provided to them at their residences/work places. This helps the members get instant and up-to-date information on a wide range of activities; in organizing their office work; receiving/sending electronic mail; having quick and accurate information on legislative and parliamentary matters, etc. on their desk.

Members of Lok Sabha have been provided with a Note-Book or a Desk-Top computer having fax/modem card alongwith a printer. In order to provide on-line services such as E-mail facility and access to the Parliament databases other Government databases and databases of foreign Legislatures to the members, a central computing facility has been developed at Parliament House and connected to NICNET through a Micro Earth Station, Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) and leased lines. Now, the members of Parliament can have access to computerised information available at the Computer Centre from their residences/ work places through their personal computers. Each member has also been provided with a protected electronic mailbox for exchange of messages through E-mail.

Communication Linkages

Parliament Library is presently linked with the National Informatics Centre's (NIC) satellite-based network known as NICNET. As NICNET is linked with capitals of all States and Districts Headquarters of the country, we are able to exchange messages and other information with State Legislatures and District Headquarters. NICNET is also connected with INTERNET and other major international networks making it possible to have interchange of information with foreign legislatures and access to international databases, including those of the foreign legislatures and international organisations.

Computerisation of various Branches in Lok Sabha Secretariat

Continuous growth in the requirements of parliamentarians for information on a wide range of issues during the past few years coupled with rapid developments in information technology, has thrown up several new areas where computers and communication technologies could be used. Lok Sabha Secretariat has kept pace with these developments by computerising most of the functions of the Secretariat by providing computer facilities to various Branches. Till now, the activities of the Reporters Service, Question Branches, Committee Branches, Members' Service Branch, Pay & Accounts Office, Budget and Payment Branch, General Administration Branch, Recruitment Branch, Reception Office, Security Service and Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) have been fully computerised. A number of mini and personal computer systems have been installed and necessary software programmes have been developed. So far 75 PCs, 22 server machines, eight Pentium servers, 270 terminals and 228 printers of different qualities and brands have been installed in various Branches of the Secretariat. Two Computer Centres, one each in Parliament House (PH) and Parliament House Annexe (PHA) have been set up to provide necessary hardware and software support to various Branches of the Secretariat.

Conclusion

The greatest gift that the 20th Century has bestowed upon us is that of technology. Never in the last two millennia has humankind achieved so much as it has during this Century. The last two decades have, in fact, ushered in a "technology revolution" across the globe. The impact of this unprecedented growth of technology has been felt in all spheres of human activity to such an extent that most of our responses are now conditioned by the level of technology available to us. Thus rapid strides in communication and information technology and convergence of various disciplines have on the one hand opened up new vistas of information storage and retrieval and on the other posed a challenge to the developing countries to rise to the occasion by re-creating necessary infrastructure to compete in the changed global economic scenario. Functioning of Parliament and consequently parliamentary democracy has benefited immensely and would continue to be benefited with these developments as effective communication, instant availability of appropriate and quality information and linkages are the basic tools for the efficient working of a successful democracy. Hence, IT is not a luxury meant exclusively for developed nations but a potential tool for the developing nations, like India. That is why, information technology is being viewed as an important and essential resource for solving the numerous and unique problems of developing nations.

8

PARLIAMENT LIBRARY AND REFERENCE, RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION SERVICE (LARRDIS)—AN OVERVIEW*

Until 1921, there was no separate Library as such for members of the Indian Legislature. Only a small collection of publications comprising mainly the Departmental reports, proceedings of the Legislatures, statutes, etc., used to be maintained without any proper classification. Books and other important publications, when required by members, were obtained on loan from the Libraries of the then Legislative Department and the Imperial Secretariat. Inadequacies inherent in such an arrangement came to be realized over the years and a small Libarary was, for the first time, established in the year 1921 in the then Central Legislative Assembly. This Library continued to serve members on a modest scale for a number of years.

It was only after the Constituent Assembly of India undertook drafting a new Constitution for free India that the demands on the Library started multiplying. Too much dependence of members only on Governmental sources of information for policy-making as well as evaluation of policy, or even for a critical appraisal of any Governmental activity, was felt to be rather unsatisfactory. An independent and comprehensive Library service was, therefore, envisioned not merely as a repository of books, legislative debates and parliamentary papers, but also for providing an up-to-date and objective storehouse of knowledge on which members could draw upon.

The year 1950, when India became a sovereign, democratic Republic, saw the beginning of a systematic expansion of the Parliament Library's collections, both quantitatively and qualitatively. Simultaneously, a Members' Reference Service was also constituted within the newly established Research and Reference Branch which initially functioned independent of the Parliament Library.

During the past five decades, the Library as well as Research and Reference Services for members of Parliament have gradually developed into what is now known as the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service, more familiar by its acronym, LARRDIS. The present set-up and nomenclature of the integrated Service is the result of a major functional re-organisation of the Secretariats of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha effected during 1974-75.

Even though LARRDIS is a part of the administrative set-up of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, it serves members of both the Houses of Parliament and functions, on a subject-section-cum-desk officer system. The objective, at every level, has been to ensure the development of necessary specialisation and expertise coupled with diversification of experience and interchangeability of desks within the broad subject areas.

LARRDIS is presently divided into the following functional Divisions: Library Division; PMA Division; Reference Division; Media Relations Division; Research and Information Division; and Computer and Parliament Library Building Division. The team of officers in each Division is led by a Joint Director/ Deputy Director. All the six Divisions are under the overall charge of three Directors. Nomenclatures and the allocation of work to these Divisions are subject to change, depending upon functional exigencies.

*Contributed by Parliamentary Affairs Wing, LARRDIS, Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Research and Information Services

The research and information services for members of Parliament are provided by the Research and Reference Divisions. Officers and staff in the Research Division are distributed into the following self-contained specialised functional Wings or Sections identified by the subjects handled by each:

(i) Economic and Financial Affairs Wing

(ii) Educational, Scientific and Social Affairs Wing

(iii) Legal and Constitutional Affairs Wing

(iv) Parliamentary Affairs Wing, including the Practice and Procedure Unit

(v) The Journal of Parliamentary Information Section

(vi) Political Affairs Wing.

Constant endeavour is made to keep members of Parliament informed of the current developments, both national and international, in various fields by bringing out books, brochures, information bulletins, background notes, fact sheets and the like which carry objective information material. Handy pamphlets or 'information quickies' are also prepared and circulated for the use of members. All these publications are based on authentic published sources and continuous efforts are made to keep these up-to-date.

Books

In recent years, the Research Division has brought out several important publications. Some of these include: (i) *Presidential Addresses to Parliament* containing all Addresses by the Presidents of India to the members of Parliament from 1950 to 1996; (ii) *Finance Ministers' Budget Speeches* (in two volumes) embodying all the Budget Speeches of Finance Ministers of India from November, 1947 to February 1996; (iii) *SAARC Parliaments;* (iv) *Into the Third Millennium—A Speaker's Perspectives* containing select speeches delivered by the Speaker of the Eleventh Lok Sabha, Shri P.A. Sangma; and (v) *The Speaker Speaks—Selected Speeches of Speaker Balayogi.* the Research Division also periodically revises and updates several important publications like the renowned treatise, Kaul and Shakdher's *Practice and Procedure of Parliament.*

To commemorate the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence, a publication titled *Fifty Years of Indian Parliamentary Democracy* was published. The publication takes stock of five decades of India's achievements and deficits in almost all areas of the nation's life during the Golden Jubilee Year, the Service also brought out some other publications titled *Speakers of Lok Sabha, India and Human Rights* and *Honouring National Leaders: Statues and Portraits in Parliament Complex.*

Brochures, Briefs, Backgrounders, etc.

The Research Division is also entrusted with special assignments like the preparation of brochures, briefs, backgrounders, etc. Brochures dealing with various National Policies, *viz. National Science and Technology Policy, National Energy Policy, National Textile Policy, National Health Policy, National Industrial Policy, Transport in India, National Electronics Policy, Foreign Policy of India, National Forest Policy, Tourism Policy of the Government of India, National Information Policy, National Agriculture Policy* and *National Education Policy* have been brought out over the years.

A number of special brochures on parliamentary and constitutional subjects like *Electing the President, Conferment of Outstanding Parliamentarian Awards, First Conference of the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians, Electoral Reforms,* and *Legislators in India: Salaries and Other Facilities,* (8th edition) were also published.

Apart from issuing 'information quickies' for members of Parliament for use in their day-to-day parliamentary activities, the Research Division also prepares a large number of briefs and background notes for several Parliamentary Delegations going to other countries on good-will visits or for participating in international Parliamentary Conferences held under the auspices of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), the Association of SAARC Speakers of Parliamentarians and other such organisations.

Background notes are also prepared for use at the Seminars and Symposia held on the occasions of the Conferences of the Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India and at other programmes organised by the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) and the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) in which members of Parliament and State Legislatures take part.

Monographs

The Research Division also brings out Monographs based on transcripts of important addresses and talks at the BPST and elsewhere. Some such Monographs include:

(i) *Nehru- A True Democrat* by R. Venkataraman

(ii) *Jawaharlal Nehru as External Affairs Minister in Parliament* by Narayan Datt Tiwari

(iii) *Jawaharlal Nehru: The Maker of Modern Commonwealth* by Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma

(iv) *Jawaharlal Nehru and Planning in India* by Vasant Sathe.

In addition, several Monographs on subjects relating to Parliament and its functioning have also been published.

With a view to reviving the memory of our eminent parliamentarians who played a distinguished role in the country's freedom struggle and contributed substantially toward the development of our parliamentary system, a new Monograph Series, namely, *the Eminent Parliamentarians Monograph Series* was started in 1990. Monographs on several eminent personalities have already been released under this Series. Besides in English and Hindi, some of these Monographs have been brought out in the regional language of the personage concerned.

A new series of Monographs titled *The Distinguished Parliamentarians Felicitation Series* is also being brought out to felicitate and place on record the contributions of many distinguished leaders and parliamentarians who continue to serve the country in very many ways today. Already one such Monograph, *Ramaswamy Venkataraman: President in Parliament* has been released.

Periodicals

Besides these *ad hoc* publications, LARRDIS publishes the following periodicals for the use of members :

The Journal of Parliamentary Information (Quarterly): It contains practice and problem oriented articles on constitutional and parliamentary subjects from members of Parliament and other experts in the field. It also serves as an authentic recorder of developments in practice and procedure and parliamentary events and activities in Indian and foreign Legislatures.

The Digest of Central Acts (Quarterly): It contains synopses of all Bills passed by Parliament and assented to by the President.

The Digest of Legislative and Constitutional Cases (Quarterly): It contains abstracts of judgements of the Supreme Court and the High Courts involving interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution on important legislative and constitutional cases.

Abstracts of Books, Reports and Articles (Quarterly): It contains abstracts of important books received in the Parliament Library and articles appearing in journals and leading newspapers, and synopses of important official Indian and foreign reports, including those from the UN.

Diary of Political Events (Monthly): It is a chronology of important national and international political developments gleaned from leading newspapers.

Public Undertakings: Digest of News and Views (Monthly): It contains mainly abstracts of important news items and comments about the performance of various public sector undertakings of the Union Government appearing in newspapers.

Science and Technology—News Digest (Monthly): It contains abstracts of important news items, latest books, reports, articles, replies to parliamentary questions and other literature on science and technology.

IPG Newsletter (Quarterly): It keeps members informed of the various parliamentary events and activities of the IPG, like exchange of Parliamentary Delegations, IPU and CPA Conferences, meetings, seminars, symposia, etc.

Parliament Library Bulletin (Monthly): It contains information regarding the titles of additions to the Parliament Library during the month. It also has separate sections on 'Titles added to Staff Library' and 'General News' pertaining to statistical information of work done by various Wings/Sections of LARRDIS and visits of dignitaries to the Parliament Library.

Parliamentary Documentation (Fortnightly): Articles and other literature which could be of use to members of Parliament appearing in the leading newspapers and over 240 periodicals are indexed, annotated, classified and codified under a specially devised classification scheme and are brought to the notice of members through this publication.

Copies of the periodicals brought out by LARRDIS are made available to members on request. Other priced

publications, including books, brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, can be purchased by members of Parliament at a special discount of 50 per cent of the sale price of the publication. This discount is admissible to former members of Parliament and media correspondents accredited to the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and the staff of the two Secretariats.

Members' Reference Service

Reference services provided to members of Parliament by LARRDIS are qualitatively as well as quantitatively different from similar services provided by other Libraries. The Members' Reference Service organises dissemination of factual, objective and latest information to members of Parliament, Presiding Officers and Committees on important legislative measures and other subjects of economic, social, political, constitutional and legal interest. The main function of this Service is to keep members informed of important developments in India and abroad. The Members' Reference Service broadly performs the following functions:

(i) Supply of on-the-spot references to members from published documents;

(ii) Collection and dissemination of latest relevant material, factual data, statistics, etc. in response to members' references;

(iii) preparation of bibliographical notes on important Bills; and

(iv) Preparation of Brochures/Background Notes/ Fact Sheets/Information Bulletins and maintenance of Study Boxes on topical issues as part of anticipatory referencing work.

In addition to the above, revision and updating of the following *ad hoc* publications are undertaken from time to time :

(i) President's Rule in the States and Union Territories;

(ii) Names and Portfolios of the members of the Union Council of Ministers;

(iii) Presidential Ordinances; and

(iv) Parliament of India; A Souvenir (brought out at the end of the term of each Lok Sabha).

In order to streamline the work and to ensure supply of latest and precise information to members within the stipulated time, the Members' Reference Service is divided into two Sections, *viz:*

(i) Legal, Constitutional, Social and Political Affairs Section; and

(ii) Economic, Financial and Infrastructure Section.

These are further divided into:

(i) National Affairs Desk

(ii) Legal, Constitutional and Parliamentary Affairs Desk

(iii) International Affairs and Defence Desk

(iv) Social Affairs Desk

(v) Human Resource Development Desk

(vi) Industry and Labour Desk

(vii) Economic, Financial and International Trade Desk

(viii) Transport, Tourism and Mines Desk.

Each Desk endeavours to collect and make available the latest information pertaining to the subjects allotted to it and to brief members as and when called for. The work of the Service is planned in such a way as to ensure timely disposal of members' reference requests.

The scope of material to be collected in response to members' references is normally limited to subjects connected with the immediate business before the two Houses of Parliament.

All books, reports and other documents relevant to a particular Bill or subject under discussion in Parliament are listed and placed in separate Study Boxes for reference and consultation in Parliament Library. The literature placed in these Study Boxes is not issued out till the debate on the relevant Bill or the subject is concluded.

During inter-Session period, the Service also prepares papers on topics of contemporary interest which are supplied to members during the Sessions. During 1997, 1998 and 1999, Brochures and background Notes were prepared by the Members' Reference Service covering subjects like *AIDS in India; Indian Railways: An Overview; Power Sector Today; Child Labour in India; Indian Economy Today: A Mid-Term Appraisal: India's Foreign Trade: Policies, Performance and Prospects; Lokpal for India; National Housing Policy; Structural Reforms and Current Economic Scenario; Poverty Alleviation in India: Policies and Programmes;* and *Power Sector Today.*

Information Bulletins issued during the year 1997, 1998 and 1999 included: *Indo-US Relations; Government Budgeting: An Overview; The Uruguay Round: An Assessment; Disinvestment in Public Sector Enterprises': Policy and Performance; Union Budget 1998-1999: An Appraisal; Indian Railways: An Appraisal; Current Price Situation: An Appraisal; Post-Reforms Industrial Scenario; Welfare of the Weaker Sections;* and *Empowerment of Women-Reservation for Women in Legislative Bodies.*

Occasional Papers brought out by the Service recently include the *Tenth Lok Sabha: A Statistical Profile; Time Spent on Various Kinds of Business in Lok Sabha: An Appraisal;* and *New Economic Policies and Role of People's Representatives in Rural Development.* An Information Folder on *Pokhran Underground Nuclear Tests, 1998: National and International Reactions* has also been brought out by the Wing.

In addition, the Reference Service, in close association with the Parliament Library, sets up a Reference Desk during parliamentary conferences and seminars to meet the information requirements of Delegates. The Service also brings out a Fact Sheet titled *INDIA: Some Facts* containing the latest statistical profile of demographic, social, political and economic aspects of the country for use by members of the Indian Parliamentary Delegations going abroad.

The popularity of the Members' Reference Service can be gauged from the marked increase in the number of references received and handled by the Service during the past few years, particularly in the seventies and the eighties. As against 700 references handled in 1970, the number rose to 950 in 1974. The year 1977 witnessed a sudden increase of references which crossed the 1,000 figure mark for the first time in the history of the Members' Reference Service and stood at 1,120. The year 1978 saw a more than two-fold increase of the figure with the number totalling 2,480. During 1990, a record number of 5,167 references were received and handled. In the years 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999, the number of references received was 4,302, 3891, 4194, 4487 and 3808 respectively.

References from members are received all the year round, during Session periods as well as inter-Session periods. For instance, out of about 2,900 references dealt with during the entire period of the Fourth Lok Sabha, more than 600 were received and processed during the inter-Session periods. During the Fifth Lok Sabha, out of about 4,100 references, the inter-Session periods accounted for nearly 950 references. During the Ninth Lok Sabha (1989-91), the Tenth Lok Sabha (July 1991 to 22 March 1996), the Eleventh Lok Sabha (15 May 1996 to 2 December 1997) and the Twelfth Lok Sabha (23 March 1998 to 26 April 1999), out of the total number of 6,650, 23,898, 7176 and 5949 references received, as many as 2,232, 5,385, 1669 and 1333, respectively, were disposed of during inter-Session periods. A similar trend has been noticed over the years in the case of spot references as well.

On an average, 40-50 references were received per day during the Session period during the Tenth, Eleventh and the Twelfth Lok Sabha. A time and motion analysis of references received during the Tenth, the Eleventh and the Twelfth Lok Sabha reveals that as many as 45 per cent of references were for the same day, 40 per cent required within 2-3 days, 10 per cent within 4-7 days and only 5 per cent for more than seven days.

A subject-wise analysis of references received during the Tenth and the Eleventh Lok Sabha shows that the majority of the references were on economic and financial matters constituting 45 per cent of the total references followed by references on political and social subjects forming 40 per cent of the total references. Legal, constitutional and parliamentary matters constituted 10 per cent and science, technology and defence 3 per cent. A small portion of references, *i.e.* 2 per cent, was on international affairs.

So far as computerisation is concerned, a software package for keeping the records of references made by members has been developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). In addition, a large number of occasional papers, *viz.* Backgrounders, Information Bulletins, Fact Sheets and Brochures are now fed into the Computer and updated as and when required.

Library Services

The Parliament Library, with the present holdings of around a million volumes of printed books, reports, Governmental publications, U.N. reports, debates, gazettes, other documents, including periodicals and publications brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, is one of the finest and richest repositories in the country. As many as 197 Indian and foreign newspapers and 662 periodicals in English, Hindi and other Indian languages are being received regularly in the Parliament Library.

Acquisition, Processing and Classification: The principal functions of the Parliament Library are acquisition, processing, preservation and issue of books, periodicals, reports and other published

material received from various sources. The emphasis throughout has been on the concept of building the Library into a dynamic living organism like the great institution of Parliament which it services, capable of thinking ahead and planning new tools and services to meet the multifarious and growing needs of its special clientele. The Parliament Library, in fact, reflects in its acquisitions the entire gamut of the national activity in its totality.

Books and publications for the Library are selected and acquired from the entire field of human activity relating to almost all subjects with special emphasis, of course, on the legislative requirements of members. All branches of human knowledge are thus covered, the only exception being books on advanced technical knowledge, pure sciences and light fiction.

The Parliament Library does not depend only on direct purchase of books and publications for enriching its collections. Under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, all State Governments are expected to acquire and send copies of all books printed in their States, free of cost, to the Parliament Library. All Ministries of the Government of India, including their Departments as well as attached and subordinate offices, likewise, are expected to supply to the Parliament Library, copies of all their publications, reports, etc. free of cost. Elaborate exchange arrangements are also in operation with numerous Governmental and non-governmental institutions in India and abroad, for sending all their publications in exchange for publications brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The Parliament Library is also a depository library for all the unrestricted publications of the United Nations and its allied Agencies.

Books and publications are also received for addition in the Library on complimentary basis, donated by members of Parliament or other individuals and institutions. In addition, books are added on the suggestions from members of Parliament and others.

As mentioned earlier, a *Parliament Library Bulletin*, containing titles of the latest additions, is published every month for the information of members and other users of the Library.

The Library management functions like acquisition, processing and issue and return of books have been computerised by using the software package, LIBSYS. Members can have access to the catalogue of the Library through the terminals installed at the counters of the Library located at First Floor and Ground Floor of the Parliament House. On-line access of catalogue provides information about author, title, subject and keywords-based searches in order to save the time of the members and other readers for having the requisite information. Indexes of important articles published in newspapers and journals and publications of national and international organisations are also available through the terminals. Subject bibliographies and select list of publications on various subjects are provided to members on request.

After a book is classified, it is also properly catalogued. The collections of the Library are presently stacked in a number of rooms on the First Floor and rooms adjoining the spacious Library Hall on the Ground Floor of the Parliament House. While books and standard reference works are available on the First Floor, reports, journals and newspapers are maintained and issued on the Ground Floor. The latest periodicals are displayed on the large tables, positioned at convenient distance, for consultation and study by members. There is a separate newspapers' enclosure in the Library Hall where members go through the newspapers published in India and abroad, displayed on specially designed racks.

The Parliament Library possesses a rich collection of over a thousand rare books on art, painting, sculpture and architecture.

As a mark of respect to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation and to make available all the works by and on the Mahatma at one place, a separate *Gandhiana* section was opened in the Parliament Library on 9 August 1978. The *Gandhiana* contains about 2,000 books by and on Mahatma Gandhi in English, Hindi and various Indian languages.

The Parliament Library has been laying great emphasis on developing its language collections. A separate wing containing nearly 72,000 holdings in various Indian languages has been carved out in the Library. The languages covered, apart from Hindi and Sanskrit, are: (i) Assamese; (ii) Bengali; (iii) Gujarati; (iv) Dogri; (v) Kannada; (vi) Kashmiri; (vii) Malayalam; (viii) Marathi; (ix) Oriya; (x) Punjabi; (xi) Rajasthani; (xii) Sindhi; (xiii) Tamil; (xiv) Telugu; and (xv) Urdu.

The Parliament Library is at present receiving 74 periodicals in Hindi and as many periodicals in the Indian languages. All these language periodicals are displayed on a separate Reading Table in the Library Hall.

Besides its conventional functions, the Parliament Library has, in recent years, ventured into other activities like participating in the birth anniversary celebrations of eminent parliamentarians and dignitaries and in other

important parliamentary events, mainly by bringing out booklets and acquiring other literature on the personalities or the issues concerned.

Library Committee of Parliament: A Library Committee is constituted every year by the Speaker, Lok Sabha to advise him on all matters concerning the development of the Parliament Library. The Committee consists of six members from the Lok Sabha and three from the Rajya Sabha, nominated by the Presiding Officers of the respective Houses. The Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha is the *ex officio* Chairman of the Library Committee. The Library Committee keeps a watch on the quality and quantum of all acquisitions of the Library and gives comments and suggestions to further improve the functioning of the Library and its ancillary services.

The issue of books and other publications to members is regulated by the Parliament Library Rules which are framed on the recommendations of the Library Committee of Parliament. These Rules are published separately and can be freely obtained by members on request.

Administration and Preservation Section: The Administration and Preservation Section of the Library Division deals with the general administration of the Library, maintenance and preservation of Library holdings, grant of Library facilities to research scholars (Indian and foreign) and personal staff of members of Parliament, stock verification, binding of publications, training of staff and the acquisition of all Library equipments.

The Correction Unit of this Section preserves and maintains the record of Central and State Acts, Government and Private Members' Bills, Central and State Government Rules, Joint Select Committee Reports, Constitution of India, Allocation of Business Rules, Foreign Acts, etc. In addition, the Unit also carries out corrections in Central Acts, Constitution of India and Allocation of Business Rules to keep them up-to-date.

Ten copies of all Government as well as Private members' Bills as introduced in the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha are also received and maintained by the Unit to meet the demands of the members. At the end of the year, five sets of the Bills as introduced in the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha, together with an index, are got bound and kept in the Library for permanent retention. Bound volumes of these Bills since 1921 are available in the Parliament Library.

The copies of the Reports of Joint/Select Committees (constituted from time to time to review Bills) as presented to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha since 1921 are also maintained in this Unit.

The copies of all the Central Acts since 1841 are preserved in the Correction Unit and necessary corrections are carried out regularly as per provisions made in the amendment Acts passed by the Parliament and assented to by the President. Five copies of the Central Acts (loose form) and four sets of the India Code volumes (Acts arranged according to subject), as amended up-to-date, are maintained by the Unit.

This Unit also receives from the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs ten copies of all the Ordinances promulgated by the President during the inter-Session period.

Library Units outside Parliament House/ Parliament House Annexe: Because of an acute space shortage, since 1992, a large number of publications, including bound volumes of newspapers and periodicals, have been shifted to 23, Mahadev Road, 36 Rakab Ganj Road and Vithalbhai Patel House. These Library Units are now functioning as ancillary units of the main Parliament Library. Books and publications stored in these Units and required by members of Parliament and reference and research staff are issued from and returned to these Unit Libraries.

The New Parliament Library Building: To house the fast growing collections and facilitate the diversification of activities to keep pace with the various information requirements of members of Parliament, a new Library building is being constructed, within the Parliament House Estate, between the Parliament House and its Annexe. The building is slated for commissioning very soon. When completed, this modern Library would be the central repository of all the information needs of members of Parliament and will function as a research and information dissemination workshop in constitutional and parliamentary subjects. The complex would also be housing the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) and the Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA).

Staff Library: As the main Library of Parliament is primarily meant for the use of members of the two Houses, a separate Library for the benefit of the parliamentary staff was set up a few years back. The Staff Library, now housed in the terrace floor of the Parliament House Annexe, is administered by the Library Division and has 2,300 staff members of the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha Secretariats, currently on its membership register.

The present holdings of the Staff Library are about 24,000. It also receives 22 newspapers and 59 periodicals regularly.

Nearly 60 new books are added to the Staff Library every month. The information about new additions is made known to its members through the *Parliament Library Bulletin*. In line with the ongoing process of computerisation of various activities of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Staff Library is also automated. Processing, issue and return of books have been computerised by using the software package, LIBSYS.

Documentation Section: The Documentation Section, set up in 1975 as a functional unit of LARRDIS, is mainly responsible for locating, collecting, subject-wise classifying and indexing of books, reports, parliamentary debates and articles appearing in periodicals and newspapers.

The Documentation Section scans 20 newspapers and 195 periodicals, as also books, reports (Centre, State, foreign and UN) and parliamentary debates received in Parliament Library during a fortnight. The useful literature and articles that need to be brought to the notice of members are indexed, annotated, classified and codified under a specially devised classification scheme. All these details are fed into the computer, processed and published in the form of the fortnightly, *Parliamentary Documentation*. Subject and author indexes are also generated from the computer and provided in the publication which serves as a useful guide for further research and reference.

To keep pace with the advances in information technology, the Documentation Section was computerised in the year 1989. The computerised database is designed to cater to the instant reference needs of members and officers of Parliament, Committees, the research and reference personnel and other staff members.

Information which is stored in the computers from 1989 till date is available for on-line retrieval year-wise, subject-wise, State-wise and country-wise.

Computerised bibliographies on specific subjects of contemporary interest, selected on *ad hoc* basis and relating to important business coming up for discussion in both the Houses of Parliament, are retrieved from the computer as and when required. This has facilitated the availability of instant and up-to-date information to members of Parliament and officers.

Press Clipping Service: The Press Clipping Service caters to the information needs of members of Parliament by providing them relevant and up-to-date press clippings of news items, selected editorials and articles on important developments in legislative, political, economic, socio-cultural, scientific and technological fields, taken from selected 17 English and 8 Hindi newspapers. Apart from newspaper clippings, the Press releases of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) and the Indian News & Features Alliance (INFA) on matters of current interest are also being scrutinised for clipping purposes. All clippings both in English and Hindi are classified according to a specially devised classification scheme.

In line with the on-going process of computerisation of various activities of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Press Clipping Service is also being automated through an Imaging Technology system linked with computer terminals.

Microfilming Unit: In order to ensure the optimum utilization of the existing space in the Parliament Library and for better preservation and future use of valuable collections of the Library, a Microfilming Unit was set up in 1987. The Unit is now fully functional and provides facilities for Computer-Assisted Retrieval (CAR) of information from the microfilmed documents. Microfilms of documents are easily accessible to members and to all those interested in them. For this, one microfilm reader-cum-printer has been installed in the Library (Ground Floor).

The following publications have been microfilmed by the Unit so far:

Publications Microfilmed by Microfilming Unit

Publications	Period
1	2
Indian Legislative Council Debates	1858-1920
Central Legislative Assembly Debates	3.2.1921-12.4.1947
Constituent Assembly Debates (Legislative)	17.11.1947-24.12.1949
Constituent Assembly Debates (Draft making)	9.12.1949-24.1.1950
Parliamentary Debates (House of the People and provisional Parliament)	28.1.1950-13.5.1954
Lok Sabha Debates (English)	14.5.1954-15.12.1994
Lok Sabha Debates (Hindi)	15.1.1985-26.8.1991
Rajya Sabha Debates (English)	23.8.1954-18.3.1992
Rajya Sabha Debates (Hindi)	15.2.1956-5.5.1993
Indexes of the above-mentioned Debates	
Journal of Parliamentary Information	April 1955-June 1993
Reports of the Indian Parliamentary Group 1950-1990	
Reports of various Parliamentary Committees:	
(i) Public Accounts Committee	1st Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(ii) Estimates Committee	1st Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(iii) Public Undertakings Committee	3rd Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(iv) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	4th Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(v) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	1st Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	1st Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha
(vii) Committee on Petitions	1st Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha

1	2
(viii) Railway Convention Committee	RCC 1943 to 3rd Report 8th Lok Sabha
(ix) Joint Committe on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament	1954 to 1989
(x) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	5th Lok Sabha-10th Lok Sabha (started from 5th Lok Sabha)
Presiding Officers' Conference (Agenda, Proceedings, Resolutions, Minutes)	1921-1992
Papers Laid on the Table of the House	From 1980 (LT-1/80-5544/82)
Papers of Shri. G.V. Mavalankar	
Constitution of India (calligraphed copy)	
O&M's Records:	
(i) Instructional Orders	No. 1 to 1193
(ii) Annual Administrative Reports	1960 to 1991
Library Records:	
(a) Accession Register (purchase) of Acquisition Section, LARRDIS	Upto Acc. No. 129650
(b) Accession Register (copyright) of Acquisition Section, LARRDIS	Upto Acc. No. 48780
(c) Bills	
(i) Official Bills introduced in Legislative Assembly	1921 to 1949
(ii) Government Bills Introduced in House of the People/Lok Sabha	1950 to 1992
(iii) Government Bills Introduced in Council of States/Rajya Sabha	1953 to 1993
(d) Rare Books	R1 to R-1158.
(i) Decisions from the Chair	1921 to March 1996
(ii) Observations from the Chair	1949 to March 1996
(iii) Directions by the Speaker	1st to 4th Edition
(iv) Parliament of India (Souvenir)	1st to 10th Lok Sabha

Gazettes and Debates Unit: This Unit maintains the collection of Debates and Gazettes, *viz.*, Constituent Assembly Debates, Lok Sabha Debates, Rajya Sabha Debates and Debates of all the State Legislatures in India, and Gazettes of India and Gazettes of all the States. Besides, this Unit has collections of the debates of the British House of Commons, the House of Lords and the U.S. Congress.

Reprography Service: The Reprography Service, set up in 1975 caters to the urgent official needs of members of Parliament, Officers and Branches of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for photocopying important press clippings, parliamentary questions and answers, articles appeared in the periodicals and newspapers and extracts from books and other documents.

The Reprography Service has three distinct units, *viz.*, Members Reprography Unit, Reference Reprography Unit and Electronic Typing Unit.

Computerised Information Service: Parliament Library made a modest beginning towards automation in December 1985 when a Computer Centre for managing the Parliament Library Information System (PARLIS) was set up with the help of the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

The continuous growth in the requirements of parliamentarians during the past few years, coupled with rapid developments in computer technology, has thrown up several new areas where computers could be used in information management. Lok Sabha Secretariat has kept pace with these developments by setting up Computer Centres in Parliament House and Parliament House Annexe. A number of server machines and personal computer systems have been installed and necessary software programme have been developed. So far 150 PCs, 22 server machines, 270 Terminals and 228 Printers (Line Printer/Laser Printer/Dot Matrix Printer) of different qualities and brands have been installed in various Branches of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. These Branches are: General Administration, Reporters Branch, Question Branch, Committees, Members' Service, Pay and Accounts, Budget and Payment, Recruitment, Editorial Branch, Table Office, Legislative Branch, BPST, Interpreters Branch, Officers of Committees, Chairmen, Reception Office, Security Service and LARRDIS.

To make available non-partisan, objective and reliable information and authoritative data on a continuous and regular basis to parliamentarians, a large number of index/text based databases of information generated within Parliament was initially developed by PARLIS. The data currently available for on-line retrieval relate to:

(i) Select Parliamentary Questions (Indexes) from 1985
(ii) Parliamentary Debates (Indexes from 1985)
(iii) Bio-data of members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha from 1985
(iv) Government and Private Members' Bills (Indexes) from 1985
(v) Council of Ministers from 1952
(vi) President's Rule in States and Union territories from 1951
(vii) Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections from 1952
(viii) By-elections to Lok Sabha since 1952
(ix) Obituary References since 1926
(x) Catalogues of publications available in Parliament Library since 1992
(xi) Indexes of important articles selected for Parliamentary Documentation
(xii) Directions, Decisions and Observations from the Chair
(xiii) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha

As mentioned earlier, Library management functions like acquisition, processing and issue and return of books have also been computerised by using the software package LIBSYS. Members can access the catalogues of Parliament Library through the terminals installed at the counters of the Library.

Computer Facility to Members of Parliament

Keeping in view the immediate and succinct information requirements of parliamentarians to discharge their duties in an effective manner, computer facilities have been provided to members of Parliament at their residences/work places. This would enable them to get instant and up-to-date information on a wide range of activities; in organising their office activities receiving/sending electronic mail; having quick and accurate information on legislative and parliamentary matters, *etc.* on their desk.

Members of Lok Sabha have been provided with a Note-Book or a Desk-Top Computer with Digital Versatile Disk (DVD) facility having fax/modem card along with a printer. In order to provide on-line services such as e-mail facility and access to Parliament data bases, other Government databases and databases of foreign Legislatures to the members, a Central Computing Facility has been set up at Parliament House and connected to NIC's satellite-based network known as NICNET through a Micro Earth Station (VSAT) and leased lines. Members of Parliament can have access to computerised information available at the Computer Centre from their residences/work places through their personal computers. Each member has also been provided with a protected electronic mail box for exchange messages through e-mail.

Communication Linkage

Parliament Library is presently linked with the NICNET. As NICNET is linked with capitals of all States and District Headquarters of the country, members are able to exchange messages and other information with State Legislatures and District Headquarters in India. NICNET is also connected with Internet making it possible to have interchange of information with foreign Legislatures and access to international databases, including those of the foreign Legislatures and international organisations.

Parliament of India Web Page on Internet

The "Parliament of India Home Page" on the World Wide Web Site of Internet became operational on 15 March 1996. The information contained in the documents of the Indian Parliament which till now existed in printed form has been converted into an electronic one, so that people can have access to them. The major components of parliamentary information, now available on the Internet are:

(i) The Constitution of India

(ii) Constituent Assembly Debates

(iii) Indian Budget 1999-2000

(iv) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha

(v) Directions by the Speaker

(vi) Decisions from the Chair

(vii) Bills and Policies from 1991 onwards

(viii) Bio-data of members of Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabha

(ix) Bio-data of members of present Rajya Sabha

(x) Parliamentary Debates [Lok Sabha Debates (indexes with Text) from July 1996 and Rajya Sabha Debates (Indexes only) beginning with the 178th Session, July 1996]

Besides, a comprehensive introduction to the Constitution and functioning of the Parliament and facilities provided to members and visitors is also given. Members of Parliament and others can now access the Parliament Web Site from anywhere in the country, round the clock, through the nation-wide network, *i.e.* NICNET of NIC. World-wide access to this site can be had at the Internet address: http:/alfa.nic.in

Press and Public Relations Service

The Press and Public Relations Wing—now a part of the Media Relations Division of LARRDIS—was set up in April 1956 to cater to the needs of the Press and provide facilities to enable them to cover the proceedings of the Lok Sabha and establish better liaison with the parliamentary correspondents and the various Government publicity organisations and communications media for the publicity of parliamentary and other activities of the Lok Sabha. This Service also deals with all matters concerning the Press Gallery of the Lok Sabha, including the issue of Press Gallery passes and provision of facilities to correspondents covering the proceedings of the House.

The facilities provided to media representatives by the PPR Wing include supply of parliamentary papers, daily agenda, committee reports, other papers laid on the Table of the House, etc. to all accredited correspondents. Photocopying and fax facilities are also available to media persons free of cost on demand. They can also consult books, periodicals, reports and other literature available in Parliament Library. Facilities available in the Audio-Visual Unit have also been extended to them. Three well furnished Press Rooms have been provided to representatives of media in the Parliament House near the Press Gallery Lok Sabha. The facility regarding simultaneous interpretation of the proceedings of Parliament is also available to the correspondents of mass media in the Press Gallery. Large screen television sets have been kept in the Press Gallery as well as in the three Press Rooms to enable the journalists to watch the proceedings of the House which are now being telecast live through Low Power Transmitters (LPTs).

Admission of Press correspondents to the Press Gallery of Lok Sabha is generally regulated on the advice given by the Press Advisory Committee which is constituted by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, every year from amongst senior journalists. The PPR Wing provides secretarial assistance to the Committee and organises its meetings.

Press Releases on all matters connected with the Sessions of the Lok Sabha and meetings of the Parliamentary Committees, various Parliamentary Conferences, visits of foreign Parliamentary Delegations to India and of Indian Delegations to other countries are also issued by the PPR Wing. Special arrangements are made for wider coverage of important Parliamentary Conferences held in India by way of setting up of Media Centres catering to the needs of the print as well as electronic media.

All Press Conferences of the Speaker/Deputy Speaker/Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees are arranged by the PPR wing. Meetings of the Speaker with correspondents accredited to the Press Gallery are also arranged by the Wing.

With the objective of wider dissemination of knowledge about the working of parliamentary institutions, small and handy information folders on important parliamentary activities and various aspects of parliamentary practice and procedure are brought out and distributed to members, Press correspondents, visiting dignitaries from India and abroad and others.

Teleprinter Service

In order to keep members posted with the latest developments in the country and abroad, particularly during the Sessions of Parliament, English, Hindi and Urdu teleprinters, fed by national news agencies, have been installed in Parliament House. Important news items received on these teleprinters are collected, scanned and displayed on a News Display Board located near the Ground Floor Library at regular intervals throughout the day. Teleprinter news scanners have also been installed in Parliament House.

Audio-Visual & Telecasting Units

As part of the modernisation of Library and Information Services, an Audio-Visual Unit, with a Viewing Room comprising four small cabins, has been set up in Room No. 46, Parliament Library (Ground Floor). Facilities for viewing/listening to video/audio records of Lok Sabha Debates, proceedings of international Parliamentary Conferences/Seminars, Parliamentary Films and Linguaphone Courses are available to members of Parliament. The proceedings of the Lok Sabha and films on parliamentary subjects are also shown to dignitaries from India as well as abroad. Accredited correspondents of the Lok Sabha can also make use of the facilities available in the Viewing Room.

The Unit preserves all video and audio-cassettes of all parliamentary proceedings, other parliamentary functions, etc. The Unit is looking after the work of selection and collection of material, accession, classification and preservation of cassettes on important parliamentary functions and events like conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops and telefilms on different aspects of parliamentary practice and procedure. Arrangements have also been made for dubbing of speeches of members into VHS Cassettes, on payment basis.

The Audio-Visual Unit is also equipped with modern VHS cameras for recording of small parliamentary functions, gatherings and meetings with the Speaker, Lok Sabha by foreign delegates, etc. The Unit is in the process of establishing its own production control room with editing/viewing facility of U-matic, betacam and VHS cassettes.

The Telecasting Unit coordinates with Doordarshan/All India Radio and other official agencies for the telecast/broadcast of parliamentary proceedings and functions. The Unit also makes all necessary arrangements for effective and uninterrupted telecasting/broadcasting by providing infrastructural and other assistance to the concerned agencies.

As an extension of telefilming and televising of parliamentary proceedings, video films are being prepared on different parliamentary practices and procedures and related parliamentary topics for new members of Parliament and State Legislatures. These films also facilitate in educating students, media persons and others about various facets of the functioning of Parliament. Six parliamentary films which have been prepared, so far are: (i) *Private Members' Bills;* (ii) *Parliamentary Questions;* (iii) *Parliamentary Etiquette and Manners;* (vi) *Financial Committees;* (v) *Enriching the Debates in Legislatures;* and (vi) *How to be an Effective Parliamentarian?*

Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA)

In 1976, the Lok Sabha Secretariat set up a Parliamentary Archives of Photographs and Films to preserve an authentic, comprehensive, complete and up-to-date pictorial record of the history of the institution of Parliament and its activities and personalities. Since this was felt inadequate in view of the archival needs of Parliament, a proposal for setting up a Parliamentary Museum and Archives was conceived and its broad outlines were approved by the General Purposes Committees of the Lok Sabha on 1 August 1985.

The Parliamentary Museum and Archives was formally inaugurated on 29 December 1989. It is presently located at the First Floor and in Room No. 601 B, Terrace Floor of the Parliament House Annexe.

The basic aim of the PMA is to preserve the past and the present for the future by protecting from the revages of time and neglect all the precious records, historic documents and articles connected with the Constitution and Parliament and through them to make the history and growth of parliamentary institutions and the political system better understood.

The PMA is divided into three wings:

The Museum: It endeavours to show, with the help of models, charts, illustrations, objects, photographs and other visual techniques, the evolution and functioning of parliamentary institutions in India and abroad.

The Museum has further been divided into three sections. Section One depicts the existence of democratic institutions in ancient India, the growth and evolution of modern parliamentary institutions and their development in the post-Independence period till date. Section Two throws light on Parliaments of the world by displaying photographs and models of various foreign Parliaments. Gifts and presents received by our Parliament from foreign Parliaments and dignitaries are also arranged in separate show cases. Section Three is about Legislatures in the States. In this Section, impressive scale models and photographs of Legislature buildings and other objects, including publications pertaining to them, are displayed.

The Photo Archives: It preserves authentic, comprehensive, complete and up-to-date pictorial record of the history of the institution of Parliament, its activities and that of eminent personalities.

The Archives Wing: It deals with the acquisition and preservation of the records connected with the framing of India's Constitution, the growth and work of parliamentary institutions and the private papers of the parliamentarians.

The present collection of the PMA is about 8,500 photographs and 29 films. It has received models of 15 State Legislature buildings in India and 8 foreign Parliament buildings. Blow-ups of photographs of all the Indian State Legislature buildings and 75 photographs of foreign Parliament buildings are also available with the PMA.

Other interesting objects added to the collections of the Museum are: the gown and the wig worn by the erstwhile President of the Central Legislative Assembly, an oil painting of the inauguration of the Round Table Conference in London, a chair used by the first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the original specimen of the seats used in the Prince's Chamber and personal articles of the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri G.V. Mavalankar.

About 1,010 stamps and First Day Covers issued by the Department of Posts from time to time and stamps of various other countries of the world, the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi in a silver-bronze container and about 200 gifts presented by various Parliamentary Delegations, including, among other things, a fragment of moon presented by a Parliamentary Delegation from the United States, are also preserved in the PMA.

The PMA also collects, purchases and maintains books written on and by parliamentarians as well as books by the Secretaries-General concerning Parliament and its functioning for display. Nearly 250 books and 27,948 documents from 59 members have been added so far.

Besides, the PMA collects data concerning the history, organisation and operation of parliamentary institutions and also designs and displays easy-to-understand at a glance charts, graphs, diagrams and other material.

From time to time, the PMA, in cooperation with official agencies, organises for members of Parliament and the general public, exhibitions on various themes mostly connected with the functioning and achievements of the Parliament.

The portraits of distinguished freedom fighters and eminent parliamentarians which are unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House from time to time adorn a separate portrait Gallery in the Museum. All the photographs, museum items, archival documents and books are accessioned and computerised for future reference and research work. The PMA also keeps updated record of obituary references made in the House. In addition, it caters to the needs for photographs from various Sections/Branches of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for inclusion in books/publications.

From time to time, the PMA has been organising exhibitions on various themes depicting the ancient democratic heritage of India and growth and development of modern democratic institutions with the help of photographs, charts, diagrams, write-ups and quotations. Some of the Exhibitions recently organised by the PMA are on: Indo-African Cooperation; Democratic and Parliamentary Heritage of India; Democracy at Work in India, etc. In a path-breaking initiative, an Exhibition on the "History and Activities of Parliament of India" was organised by the PMA in the State Duma in Moscow in November 1998.

PART II

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

1

CONSTITUTION AND COMPOSITION OF LOK SABHA

Elections

The Constitution of India empowers Parliament to make laws regarding elections. Two major laws were accordingly enacted by Parliament in 1950 and 1951 for the purpose. Statutory rules were formulated under these Acts for the conduct of elections. The Representation of the People Act, 1950 provides for the allocation of seats in and the delimitation of constituencies for the purpose of election to the House of the People and the Legislatures of States, the qualifications of voters at such elections, the preparation of electoral rolls, etc. The Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides for the conduct of elections to the Houses of Parliament and to the House or Houses of the Legislature of each State, the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of those Houses, the corrupt practices and other offences at or in connection with such elections and the decision of doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with such elections.

The Constitution also provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In the Twelfth General Elections to the Lok Sabha held during February-March 1998, 79 seats were reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 41 seats for the Scheduled Tribes.

Statement 1 shows State-wise number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Twelfth General Elections.

Since the commencement of the Constitution, India has held till June 1999, twelve General Elections to the Lok Sabha based on universal adult franchise. The first General Elections were held in December 1951–February 1952, the second in February–March 1957, the third in February 1962, the fourth in February 1967, the fifth in March 1971, the sixth in March 1977, the seventh in December 1979–January 1980, the eighth in December 1984, the ninth in November 1989, the tenth in May-June 1991 and the eleventh in April-May, 1996. In pursuance of the notifications issued by the President of India, Shri. K. R. Narayanan on 20, 21, 28 January 1998 and 10 February 1998 under sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, General Elections to the Twelfth Lok Sabha were held on 16, 22, 28 February 1998 and 7 March 1998. Polling was held in respect of 543 seats.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998 with the Election Commission issuing a notification under section 73 of the Representation of People Act, 1951. The first sitting of the House was held on 23 March 1998. Statement 2 indicates the programme of the Twelfth General Elections.

Political Parties

In the Twelfth General Elections to the Lok Sabha, candidates of seven national parties, thirty State parties and one hundred thirty-nine other registered parties contested.

Statement 3, 3(A) and 3(B) respectively provide the details of national parties, State parties and other registered parties which took part in the elections.

Party Position

Initially 539* members were elected and two members were nominated by the President under article 331 of the Constitution as detailed in Statement 4.

---

* Lok Sabha elections to the remaining four parliamentary constituencies were held on the following dates:

1. Udhampur (Jammu & Kashmir)	18 March 1998.
2. Patna (Bihar)	30 March 1998.
3. Mandi (Himachal Pradesh)	3 June 1998.
4. Ladakh (Jammu & Kashmir)	

No single party could get an absolute majority in the House. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) emerged as the single largest party followed by Congress (I).

Statement 5 provides the party-wise position as on 10 March 1998, *i.e.*, the day the Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted.

Swearing-in by Members

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998. On the day of its constitution, the Twelfth Lok Sabha comprised 539 members elected from different parliamentary constituencies. On 24 March 1998 two members were nominated by the President to the Twelfth Lok Sabha under article 331 of the Constitution to represent the Anglo-Indian community. During the First Session, 539 members made the oath or affirmation under article 99 of the Constitution. Of them 215 did so in Hindi, 86 in English, 65 in Sanskrit, 36 in Tamil, 34 in Bengali, 22 in Kannada, 16 in Marathi, 14 in Telugu, 13 in Malayalam, 9 in Punjabi, 8 in Oriya, 7 each in Urdu and Gujarati, 3 in Assemese and 1 each in Nepali, Manipuri, Konkani and Kashmiri.

Statement 6 indicates the languages used by the members for subscribing to the oath or affirmation.

By-elections

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, in all 2 by-elections were held. Statement 7 shows details about these by-elections.

Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Panel of Chairmen

The Twelfth Lok Sabha created history at the very beginning when for the first time a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes was elected as Speaker. The House which was constituted on 10 March 1998 met for the first time on 23 March 1998. Shri Indrajit Gupta who was appointed Speaker pro-tem by the President of India on 20 March 1998 presided over the sittings of Lok Sabha on 23 and 24 March 1998. On 24 March 1998, Shri Ganti Mohana Chandra Balayogi was elected as the Speaker of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. On 17 December 1998, Shri P.M. Sayeed was elected unanimously as the Deputy Speaker of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Statement 8 provides names of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Panel of Chairmen with tenure.

Leader of the House

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Leader of the House from 19 March 1998 till his resignation as Prime Minister on 17 April 1999.

Leader of the Opposition

The Speaker, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi recognised Shri Sharad Pawar, the Leader of the Congress (I) in the Lok Sabha, as the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha with effect from 19 March 1998.

Socio-economic Profile of the Members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was represented by members with diverse social, political as well as professional background. The average age of the members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 46.42 years, compared to 52.82 years in the Eleventh Lok Sabha. As far as professional background is concerned, Agriculturists dominated the House (49.06 per cent) followed by Political and Social Workers (18.04 per cent) and Lawyers (10.15 per cent). The corresponding figures for the Eleventh Lok Sabha were 38.98 per cent, 19.58 per cent and 12.24 per cent. The Twelfth Lok Sabha had a little over 44.8 per cent Graduates including those with equivalent technical qualifications, and 28.16 per cent Post-graduates, including those with equivalent technical qualifications. 4.53 per cent of the members possessed Doctoral or similar other high academic qualifications. The Twelfth Lok Sabha also had the lowest percentage of 2.26 per cent Under-matriculates as compared to the earlier Lok Sabhas. Similar data for the Eleventh Lok Sabha had been 42.94 per cent, 28.82 per cent and 5.60 per cent respectively. There were 44 women members in the Twelfth Lok Sabha comprising 8.07 per cent of the total membership of the House as against 40 women members constituting 7.36 per cent of the total during the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

Of the 545 members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 217 members were new to the House while the remaining 328 had been members of one or more of the earlier eleven Lok Sabhas. A total of 100 of these 217 new members were absolutely new to the House without any previous legislative experience, while the remaining 117 had the experience either of the Rajya Sabha or one of the State legislatures in India. Forty-one political parties/groups, as detailed in Statement 9, were represented in the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Sitting Arrangement for Members

The Chamber of the Lok Sabha is semi-circular in shape. The Chair of the Speaker is placed conspicuously at the centre of the diameter connecting the two ends of the semi-circle. In the pit of the Chamber just below the Speaker's Chair is the table of the Secretary-General of the House.

The Chamber has a seating accommodation for 550 members. The seats are divided into six blocks each with eleven rows. On the right of the Chair of the Speaker are the Treasury Benches and on the left are seats for the Opposition members.

A Chart showing the seating arrangement in the Lok Sabha Chamber is appended at the end of the publication.

STATEMENT 1

Reserved Seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

States/Union Territories	1998—General Elections		
	Total Seats	SC	ST
1	2	3	4
States			
1. Andhra Pradesh	42	6	2
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	0
3. Assam	14	1	2
4. Bihar	54	8	5
5. Goa	2	0	0
6. Gujarat	26	2	4
7. Haryana	10	2	0
8. Himachal Pradesh	4	1	0
9. Jammu & Kashmir	6	0	0
10. Karnataka	28	4	0
11. Kerala	20	2	0
12. Madhya Pradesh	40	6	9
13. Maharashtra	48	3	4
14. Manipur	2	0	1
15. Meghalaya	2	0	0

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
16. Mizoram	1	0	1
17. Nagaland	1	0	0
18. Orissa	21	3	5
19. Punjab	13	3	0
20. Rajasthan	25	4	3
21. Sikkim	1	0	0
22. Tamil Nadu	39	7	0
23. Tripura	2	0	1
24. Uttar Pradesh	85	18	0
25. West Bengal	42	8	2
Union Territories			
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	0	0
27. Chandigarh	1	0	0
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	1
29. Daman & Diu	1	0	0
30. National Capital Territory of Delhi	7	1	0
31. Lakshadweep	1	0	1
32. Pondicherry	1	0	0
Total:	**543**	**79**	**41**

STATEMENT 2

Programme of the Twelfth General Elections

Sl.No.	Programme	Date
1.	Dates of issue of Notification	20.01.1998*
		21.01.1998@
		28.01.1998$
		10.02.1998#
2.	Last dates for filing nominations	27.01.1998*
		28.01.1998@
		04.02.1998$
		17.02.1998#
3.	Dates of scrutiny of nominations	28.01.1998*
		29.01.1998@
		05.02.1998$
		18.02.1998#
4.	Last dates for withdrawal of candidatures	31.01.1998*&@
		07.02.1998$
		20.02.1998#
5.	Dates on which poll was held	16.02.1998*&@
		22.02.1998+
		28.02.1998+
		07.03.1998#
6.	Date on which the Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted	10.03.1998

* Covered the States of Meghalaya and Tripura.

@ Covered the States and Union territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Manipur, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, NCT of Delhi, Lakshadweep, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir (in part).

$ Covered the States and Union territories of Mizoram, Nagaland, Pondicherry, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Daman & Diu and Jammu & Kashmir (in part).

\# Three constituencies of Jammu & Kashmir, namely Udhampur, Anantnag, Baramulla.

\+ Polling in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh was held in two phases on 16.2.98 and 22.2.98. Whereas the State of Goa and Union territory of Pondicherry polled on 22.2.98, the States of Mizoram and Nagaland polled on 23.2.98. In respect of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal also polling was held in two phases on 22.2.98 and 28.2.98. The States of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir (in part) and Union territory of Daman & Diu polled on 28.2.98.

STATEMENT 3

General Elections to the Lok Sabha 1998—
List of National Parties and Symbols

Sl.No.	National Parties	Symbols Reserved
1.	Bahujan Samaj Party	Elephant
2.	Bharatiya Janata Party	Lotus
3.	Communist Party of India	Ears of Corn & Sickle
4.	Communist Party of India (Marxist)	Hammer, Sickle & Star
5.	Indian National Congress	Hand
6.	Janata Dal	*Chakra* (Wheel)
7.	Samata Party	Flaming Torch

STATEMENT 3(A)

List of State Parties and Symbols

Sl. No.	State Parties	Symbol Reserved	States/Union territories in which Recognised
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Congress	Two Daos Intersecting	Arunachal Pradesh
2.	All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	Two Leaves	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
3.	Asom Gana Parishad	Elephant	Assam
4.	All India Indira Congress (Secular)	Lady offering Flowers	Rajasthan
5.	Autonomous State Demand Committee	Boy & Girl	Assam
6.	Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	Rising Sun	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
7.	All India Forward Bloc	Lion	West Bengal

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
8.	Hill State People's Democratic Party	Lion	Meghalaya
9.	Haryana Vikas Party	Boy & Girl	Haryana
10.	Jammu & Kashmir National Conference	Plough	Jammu & Kashmir
11.	Jharkhand Mukti Morcha	Bow & Arrow	Bihar
12.	Janata Party	Haldhar within Wheel (Chakra Haldhar)	Arunachal Pradesh
13.	Kerala Congress	Bicycle	Kerala
14.	Kerala Congress (M)	Two Leaves	Kerala
15.	Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party	Lion	Goa
16.	Mizo National Front	Star	Mizoram
17.	Manipur People's Party	Bicycle	Manipur
18.	Muslim League Kerala State Committee	Ladder	Kerala
19.	NTR Telugu Desam Party (Lakshmi Parvathi)	Lion	Andhra Pradesh
20.	Pattali Makkal Katchi	Elephant	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
21.	Republican Party of India	Rising Sun	Maharashtra
22.	Revolutionary Socialist Party	Spade & Stoker	Kerala, Tripura, West Bengal
23.	Shiromani Akali Dal	Scales	Punjab
24.	Sikkim Democratic Front	Umbrella	Sikkim
25.	Shiv Sena	Bow and Arrow	Maharashtra
26.	Samajwadi Party	Bicycle	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Telugu Desam Party	Bicycle	Andhra Pradesh
28.	Tamil Maanila Congress (Moopnar)	Bicycle	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry
29.	United Democratic Party	Drum	Meghalaya
30.	United Goans Democratic Party	Two Leaves	Goa

STATEMENT 3(B)

Names of the Unrecognised Political Parties Registered with the Election Commission

1. Akhil Bharatiya Ashok Sena
2. Akhil Bharatiya Bhrastachar Nirmoolan Sena
3. Akhil Bharatiya Berozgaar Party
4. Akhil Bharatiya General Labour Party
5. Akhil Bharatiya Garib Mazdoor Kisan Party
6. Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha
7. Akhil Bharatiya Sena
8. Akhil Bharatiya Janata Congress
9. Akhil Bharatiya Jan Sangh
10. Akhil Bharatiya Loktantra Party
11. Akhil Bhartiya Manav Seva Dal
12. Ambedkarbadi Party
13. Akhil Bharatiya Rashtriya Azad Hind Party
14. Akhil Bharatiya Rajivwadi Congress(Dubey)
15. Akhil Bharatiya Ram Rajya Parishad (Prem Ballabh Vyas)
16. Akhil Bharatiya Revolutionary Shoshit Samaj Dal
17. Akhil Bharatiya Shivsena Rashtrawadi
18. Apna Dal
19. Agrajan Party
20. All India Gareeb Congress
21. All India Minorities Front
22. All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen
23. All India Muslim Forum
24. All India Rashtriya Janata Party
25. All India Rajiv Krantikari Congress
26. Ajeya Bharat Party
27. Adarash Lok Dal
28. Amra Bangalee
29. Andhra Nadu Party
30. Bharatiya Asht Jan Party
31. Bhrashtachar Virodhi Dal
32. Bihar Jana Congress
33. Biju Janata Dal
34. Bharatiya Jan Jagruti Party
35. Bhartiya Jan Sabha
36. Bharatiya Jantantrik Parishad
37. Bahujan Kranti Dal
38. Bahujan Kranti Dal(Jai)
39. Bharatiya Kisan Kamgar Party
40. Bharatiya Krantikari Kammand Party
41. Bharti Lok Lehar Party
42. Bharatiya Momin Front
43. Bharatiya Minorities Suraksha Mahasangh
44. Bharatiya Parivartan Morcha
45. Bharatiya Rajiv Congress
46. Bharatiya Vikash Party
47. Bahujan Samaj Party(Ambedkar)
48. Bahujan Vikas Party
49. Chhattisgarh Mukti Morcha
50. Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)(Liberation)

(Contd.)

51. Ekta Kranti Dal U.P.
52. Forward Blocs (Socialist)
53. Gondvana Gantantra Party
54. Golden India Party
55. Garo National Council
56. Gareebjan Samaj Party
57. Hindustan Inqualab Party
58. Hindustan Janta Party
59. Hind Kisan Mazdoor Party
60. Haryana Lok Dal (Rashtriya)
61. Hind Morcha
62. Himachal Vikash Congress
63. Indian Bahujan Samajwadi Party
64. Indian Congress (Socialist)
65. Indian National League
66. Indian Republican Front
67. Indian Union Muslim League
68. Jammu and Kashmir Awami League
69. Jharkhand Party
70. Jharkhand Party (Naren)
71. Jharkhand People's Party
72. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Mardi)
73. Jan Samanta Party
74. Jai Telengana Party
75. Kannada Chalevali Vatal Paksha
76. Krantikari Manuwadi Morcha
77. Kranti Dal
78. Karnataka Rajya Ryota Sangha
79. Karnataka Vikash Party
80. Kisan Vikas Party
81. Lok Shakti
82. Loktantrik Samajwadi Party
83. M.G.R. Anna D.M.Kazhagam
84. Marxist Co-ordination
85. Marxist Communist Party of India (S.S. Srivastava)
86. Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
87. Manava Party
88. Maharashtra Rashtravadi Congress
89. Manipur State Congress Party
90. Manav Samaj Party
91. National Loktantrik Party
92. National Panthers Party
93. National People's Party
94. National Republican Party
95. Orissa Congress
96. Peoples Democratic Party
97. Pragtisheel Manav Samaj Party
98. Punjab Pradesh Vikas Party
99. Prism
100. Pragatisheel Party
101. Proutist Sarva Samaj Samiti
102. Puthiya Tamilagam
103. Plains Tribals Council of Assam
104. Peasants and Workers Party of India
105. Rashtriya Aikta Manch
106. Rashtriya Ali Sena

(Contd.)

107. Revolutionary Communist Party of India(Rasik Bhatt)
108. Rashtriya Janta Congress
109. Rashtriya Janata Dal
110. Rashtriya Janandholan Paksha
111. Rajasthan Vikash Party
112. Rashtriya Mazdoor Ekta Party
113. Rashtriya Muslim Mujhahid Party
114. Republican Party of India (Khobragade)
115. Rastreeya Praja Parishad
116. Republican Presidium Party of India
117. Rashtriya Rajdhani Congress Delhi
118. Rashtriya Unnatisheel Dal
119. Shiromani Akali Dal (Simranjit Singh Mann)
120. Sarvadharam Party (Madhya Pradesh)
121. Shoshit Samaj Party
122. Samajwadi Janata Party (Rashtriya)
123. Socialist Party(Lohia)
124. Shoshit Samaj Dal
125. Sanatan Samaj Party
126. Savarn Samaj Party
127. Samajwadi Jan Parishad
128. Telangana Praja Party
129. The Humanist Party of India
130. Tamilaga Janata
131. The Religion of Man Revolving Political Party of India
132. United Citizens Party
133. United Communist Party of India
134. Uttarakhand Kranti Dal
135. United Minorities Front, Assam
136. Uttar Pradesh Republican Party
137. United Reservation Movement Council of Assam
138. United Tribal Nationalists Liberation Front
139. West Bengal Trinamool Congress

STATEMENT 4

Number of Members Initially Elected/ Nominated to the Twelfth Lok Sabha

1.	Members Elected	539
2.	Members Nominated under article 331 of the Constitution	2*
	Total:	541

* 1. Dr. (Mrs.) Beatrix D'Souza
2. Lt. Gen.(Retd.) N. Foley

STATEMENT 5

Strength of Political Parties in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

(As on 10.3.1998)

Names of States/Union Territories	Seats	BJP	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	CPM	TMC	DMK	Samajwadi	TDP	Shiv Sena	BSP	CPI	SAD	Samata Party	ORS	IND	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
States																		
Andhra Pradesh	42	4	22	1	–	–	–	–	12	–	–	2	–	–	1(a)	–	42	–
Arunachal Pradesh	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2(b)	–	2	–
Assam	14	1	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2(c)	1	14	–
Bihar	54	19	5	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	18(d)	–	53	1
Goa	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Gujarat	26	19	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	–
Haryana	10	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	5(e)	–	10	–
Himachal Pradesh	4	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1
Jammu & Kashmir	6	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2(f)	–	4	2
Karnataka	28	13	9	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3(g)	–	28	–
Kerala	20	–	8	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	4(h)	–	20	–
Madhya Pradesh	40	30	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	40	–
Maharashtra	48	4	33	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	5(i)	–	48	–
Manipur	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1(j)	–	2	–
Meghalaya	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Mizoram	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–
Nagaland	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Orissa	21	7	5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	9(k)	–	21	–
Punjab	13	3	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	1	13	–

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Rajasthan	25	5	18	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1(l)	1	25	–
Sikkim	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1(m)	–	1	–
Tamil Nadu	39	3	–	–	–	3	5	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	26(n)	1	39	–
Tripura	2	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Uttar Pradesh	85	57	–	–	–	–	–	20	–	–	4	–	–	2	1(o)	1	85	–
West Bengal	42	1	1	–	24	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	13(p)	–	42	–
Union Territories																		
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Chandigarh	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Daman and Diu	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Delhi	7	6	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	–
Lakshadweep	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Pondicherry	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Nominated	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
Total:	**545**	**179**	**141**	**6**	**32**	**3**	**6**	**20**	**12**	**6**	**5**	**9**	**8**	**12**	**94**	**6**	**539**	**6**

(a) All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen-1.
(b) Arunachal Congress-2.
(c) Autonomous State Demand Committee-1, UMF-1.
(d) Rashtriya Janata Party-1, Rashtriya Janata Dal-17.
(e) Haryana Vikas Party-1, Haryana Lok Dal (Rashtriya)-4.
(f) National Conference-2.
(g) Lok Shakti-3.
(h) Muslim League-2; Revolutionary Socialist Party-1; and Kerala Congress (M)-1.
(i) Republican Party of India-4; and Peasants and Workers Party-1.
(j) Manipur State Congress Party-1.
(k) Biju Janata Dal-9.
(l) All India Indira Congress (S)-1.
(m) Sikkim Democratic Front-1.
(n) AIADMK-18; Pattali Makkal Katchi-4; MDMK-3; Janata Party-1.
(o) Samajwadi Janata Party (Rashtriya)-1.
(p) West Bengal Trinamool Congress-7; Revolutionary Socialist Party-4; All India Forward Bloc—2.

STATEMENT 6

Language-wise Break-up of the Number of Members who Made and Subscribed Oath or Affirmation during the First Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Language	Number of Members	Language	Number of Members
Hindi	215	Oriya	8
English	86	Urdu	7
Sanskrit	65	Gujarati	7
Tamil	36	Assamese	3
Bengali	34	Kashmiri	1
Kannada	22	Konkani	1
Marathi	16	Manipuri	1
Telugu	14	Nepali	1
Malayalam	13	**Total:**	539
Punjabi	9		

STATEMENT 7

By-elections held during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Name of Member	Constituency & State	Date of By-Election	Date of Oath/ Affirmation Taking seat in the House	Reasons for By-Election
1.	Shri Tarlochan Singh Tur	Taran Taran (Punjab)	03.06.1998	08.06.1998	Seat became vacant under provisions of Art. 101(2) read with Rule 2 of Prohibition of Simultaneous Membership Rules, 1950 and Sections 67 and 73 of Representation of People Act, 1951 as Shri Prem Singh Lalpura who was also a member of Punjab Legislative Assembly did not resign within the stipulated period.
2.	Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava	Broach (Gujarat)	25.11.1998	01.12.1998	Death of Sh. Chandubhai Deshmukh

STATEMENT 8

Names of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Panel of Chairmen

Names	Period	
	From	To
Pro-tem Speaker		
$ Shri Indrajit Gupta	23.03.1998	24.03.1998
Speaker		
Shri Ganti Mohana Chandra Balayogi	24.03.1998	Till the commencement of the First Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha.
Deputy Speaker		
Shri P.M. Sayeed	23.03.1998*	28.03.1998
	28.03.1998*	17.12.1998
	17.12.1998*	26.04.1999
Panel of Chairmen		
@ Shri K.Pradhani	23.03.1998	26.04.1999#
@ Dr.Laxminarayan Pandey	23.03.1998	26.04.1999
Prof. Rita Verma	28.03.1998	26.04.1999
Shri K. Yerrannaidu	28.03.1998	26.04.1999
Shri V. Sathiamoorthy	28.03.1998	26.04.1999
Shri Basudeb Acharia	28.03.1998	26.04.1999
Shri Beni Prasad Verma	27.05.1998	26.04.1999
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	27.05.1998	26.04.1999
Shri P. C. Chacko	23.02.1999	26.04.1999

$ Appointed the President of India on 20 March 1998 under article 99 of the Constitution before whom members could make and subscribe oath or affirmation.

* He was nominated Speaker *pro-tem* as Member of Panel of Chairmen on 23 March 1998; nominated Speaker as Member of Panel of Chairmen on 28 March 1998 and appointed as Deputy Speaker on 17 December 1998.

@ Nominated the Speaker *pro-tem* on 23 March 1998 before whom members could take oath and again nominated the Speaker on 28 March 1998.

Date of dissolution of the 12th Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 9

Representation of Political Parties in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

1. All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
2. All India Forward Bloc
3. All India Indira Congress (Secular)
4. All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul-Muslimeen
5. All India Rashtriya Janata Party
6. Arunachal Congress
7. Arunachal Congress (M)@
8. Autonomous State Demand Committee
9. Bahujan Samaj Party
10. Bharatiya Janata Party
11. Biju Janata Dal
12. Communist Party of India
13. Communist Party of India (Marxist)
14. Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
15. Haryana Vikas Party
16. Haryana Lok Dal (Rashtriya)*
17. Indian National Congress
18. Indian Union Muslim League
19. Janata Dal
20. Janata Party
21. Kerala Congress (Mani)
22. Lok Shakti
23. Manipur State Congress Party
24. Indian Union Muslim League
25. Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam
26. National Conference
27. Pattali Makkal Katchi
28. Peasants and Workers Party of India
29. Rashtriya Janata Dal
30. Republican Party of India
31. Revolutionary Socialist Party
32. Samajwadi Party
33. Samajwadi Janata Party (Rashtriya)
34. Samata Party
35. Shiromani Akali Dal
36. Shiv Sena
37. Sikkim Democratic Front
38. Telugu Desam Party
39. Tamil Manila Congress (M)
40. West Bengal Trinamool Congress
41. United Minorities Front

@Consequent upon split in the party, the Speaker accorded recognition to Arunachal Congress (M) on 31 March 1999 for functional purposes in the House.

*The name of the party Haryana Lok Dal (Rashtriya) was changed to Indian National Lok Dal w.e.f. 9 December 1998 in Lok Sabha.

2

DURATION AND SITTINGS OF LOK SABHA

Parliament is the supreme legislative body of the country. Our Parliament comprises the President and the two Houses—the Rajya Sabha (the Council of States) and the Lok Sabha (the House of the People). The President has the power to summon and prorogue either House of Parliament and to dissolve the Lok Sabha. The Constitution provides that unless sooner dissolved, the Lok Sabha shall continue for a period of five years from the date of its first meeting. However, in the eventuality of national emergency, Parliament may by law extend the duration of the Lok Sabha for a period not exceeding one year at a time but it cannot be extended beyond six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.

Sessions

Sessions of the Lok Sabha commencing after each General Elections are numbered serially, beginning with the First. Normally, three sessions of the Lok Sabha are held in a year, namely, the Budget Session, the Monsoon Session and the Winter Session. The Budget Session is the most important and the longest of the three sessions, usually commencing sometime in the third week of February and ending by the middle of May. The Monsoon Session, normally begins sometime in the middle of July and lasts till the third week of August. The Winter Session commences in the middle of November and ends sometime in the last week of December.

Duration and Sittings

Each Lok Sabha has been identified by its serial number. So far twelve Lok Sabhas have been elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage.

After the coming into force of the Constitution of India on 26 January 1950 and following the First General Elections held under the Constitution from 25 October 1951 to 21 February 1952, the first elected Parliament was constituted on 17 April 1952. The First Lok Sabha met for the first time on 13 May 1952 and was dissolved by the President on 4 April 1957, thirty-eight days earlier than its normal life of five years. The Second Lok Sabha, which held its first sitting on 10 May 1957, was dissolved on 31 March 1962, forty days before the expiry of its term. The Third Lok Sabha held its first sitting on 16 April 1962, and was dissolved on 3 March 1967, forty-four days before the expiry of its term. The Fourth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 16 March 1967 and was dissolved on 27 December 1970, one year and seventy-nine days before the expiry of its term.

The first sitting of the Fifth Lok Sabha was held on 19 March 1971. The term of the Fifth Lok Sabha, which was to expire on 18 March 1976, was extended by a period of one year, *i.e.*, upto 18 March 1977 by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. Again, the term was extended for a further period of one year, *i.e.*, upto 18 March 1978, by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976. However, the House was dissolved on 18 January 1977 after having been in existence for a period of five years, ten months and six days.

The Sixth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 25 March 1977 after the Sixth General Elections. The normal term of the Lok Sabha was restored to five years under the Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978. The House was, however, dissolved on 22 August 1979 after having been in existence for a period of two years, four months and twenty-eight days.

The Seventh Lok Sabha had its first sitting on 21 January 1980. It was dissolved on 31 December 1984 after having been in existence for a period of four years, eleven months and ten days.

The Eighth Lok Sabha had its first sitting on 15 January 1985. The term of this Lok Sabha, was to expire on 14 January 1990. It was, however, dissolved on 27 November 1989 after having been in existence for a period of four years, ten months and sixteen days.

The Ninth Lok Sabha met for the first time on 18 December 1989. After having been in existence for a period of one year, two months and twenty-six days, the House was dissolved on 13 March 1991.

The Tenth Lok Sabha was constituted on 20 June 1991 and the first sitting of the House was held on 9 July 1991. It was dissolved on 10 May 1996 after having been in existence for a period of four years, ten months and three days.

The Eleventh Lok Sabha was constituted on 1 May 1996 and the first sitting of the House was held on 22 May 1996. It was dissolved on 4 December 1997 after having been in existence for a period of one year, six months and fourteen days.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998 and the first sitting of the House was held on 23 March 1998. The House was, however, dissolved on 26 April 1999 after having been in existence for a period of one year, one month and five days. Notably, this Lok Sabha had the shortest life of all the Lok Sabhas constituted so far. The longest tenure on record is that of the Fifth Lok Sabha with a total of five years, ten months and six days. Statement 10 shows the dates of commencement and termination of sessions of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

During its span, the Twelfth Lok Sabha devoted 574 hours and 55 minutes to various kinds of business transacted by it in 88 sittings spanning four sessions. In comparison, the Eleventh Lok Sabha devoted 813 hours and 38 minutes in 125 sittings during 6 sessions, the Tenth 2,527 hours and 52 minutes in 423 sittings during 16 sessions, the Ninth 754 hours in 109 sittings during 7 sessions, the Eighth 3,223 hours and 52 minutes in 485 sittings during 14 sessions, and the Seventh 3,324 hours and 1 minute in 464 sittings during its 15 sessions. The Sixth Lok Sabha held 267 sittings of about 1,753 hours duration during its 9 sessions, the Fifth 613 sittings of about 4,071 hours duration during 18 sessions, the Fourth 467 sittings of about 3,029 hours duration during 12 sessions, the Third 578 sittings of about 3,733 hours duration during 16 sessions, the Second 567 sittings of about 3,651 hours duration during 16 sessions, and the First Lok Sabha 677 sittings of about 3,784 hours duration during its 14 sessions.

The average duration of sittings during the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 6 hours and 32 minutes as compared to 6 hours and 30 minutes of the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 5 hours and 58 minutes of the Tenth, 6 hours and 55 minutes of the Ninth, 6 hours and 39 minutes of the Eighth, 7 hours and 10 minutes of the Seventh, 6 hours and 34 minutes of the Sixth, 6 hours and 38 minutes of the Fifth, 6 hours and 29 minutes of the Fourth, 6 hours and 27 minutes of the Third, 6 hours and 26 minutes of the Second and 5 hours and 35 minutes of the First Lok Sabha.

Compared to the earlier periods of the Central Legislative Assembly and the Constituent Assembly (Legislative), there has been a marked increase in the number of annual sittings of the Lok Sabha and their duration from 1952 onwards, revealing an increasing tempo in the activities of the House during these years. An analysis of the total number of sittings since 1929 provides certain interesting facts. During the period 1929 to 1951, the average annual duration of the sittings was 365 hours and an average day's sitting was for 4 hours and 57 minutes. However, during the next twenty three years, *i.e.*, between 1952 and 1974, the average annual duration of sittings was 772 hours which showed an increase in the daily sitting duration to 6 hours and 24 minutes. Notably, from 1975 to 1998, though the average annual duration of the sittings has come down to 556 hours, the duration per sitting has, on an average, increased to 6 hours and 37 minutes, *i.e.*, an increase of 13 minutes per sitting as compared to the period from 1952 to 1974 and an increase of 1 hour and 40 minutes as compared to the period from 1929 to 1951.

Statement 11 shows the number and duration of sittings of the House from 1929 onwards.

Time Spent on Various Kinds of Business

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, of the total time of 574 hours and 55 minutes taken by the House, Legislative Business (Government and Private Members' Bills) claimed 95 hours and 25 minutes or 16.6 per cent as against 128 hours and 15 minutes or 15.66 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 560 hours and 03 minutes or 22.16 per cent in the Tenth, 122 hours 37 minutes or 16.23 per cent in the Ninth, 806 hours and 59 minutes or 25 per cent in the Eighth, 797 hours and 48 minutes or 23.99 per cent in the Seventh, 412 hours and 28 minutes or 23.51 per cent in the Sixth, 1121 hours and 52 minutes or 27.55 per cent in the Fifth, 668 hours and 2 minutes or 22.08 per cent in the Fourth, 867 hours and 58 minutes or 23 per cent in the Third, 1031 hours and 58 minutes or 28.20 per cent in the Second and 1844 hours and 2 minutes or 48.8 per cent in the First Lok Sabha.

The time involved in the discussion on Budgets* was 14.68 per cent of the total in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

* General Budget, Railway Budget, Supplementary/Excess Demands for Grants and Budgets of States and Union territories under President's rule.

as against 17.60 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 17.38 per cent in the Tenth, 16 per cent in the Ninth, 21.74 per cent in the Eighth, 20.84 per cent in the Seventh, 23.26 per cent in the Sixth, 21.64 per cent in the Fifth, 19.13 per cent in the Fourth, 25 per cent in the Third, 20.9 per cent in the Second and 18.50 per cent in the First Lok Sabha.

The percentage of time taken on Questions during the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 8.96 as against with 9.58 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 11.80 per cent in the Tenth, 10.14 per cent in the Ninth, 12.80 per cent in the Eighth, 12.20 per cent in the Seventh, 13.70 per cent in the Sixth, 12.61 per cent in the Fifth, 15.94 per cent in the Fourth, 15 per cent each in the Third and the Second and 14.60 per cent in the First Lok Sabha.

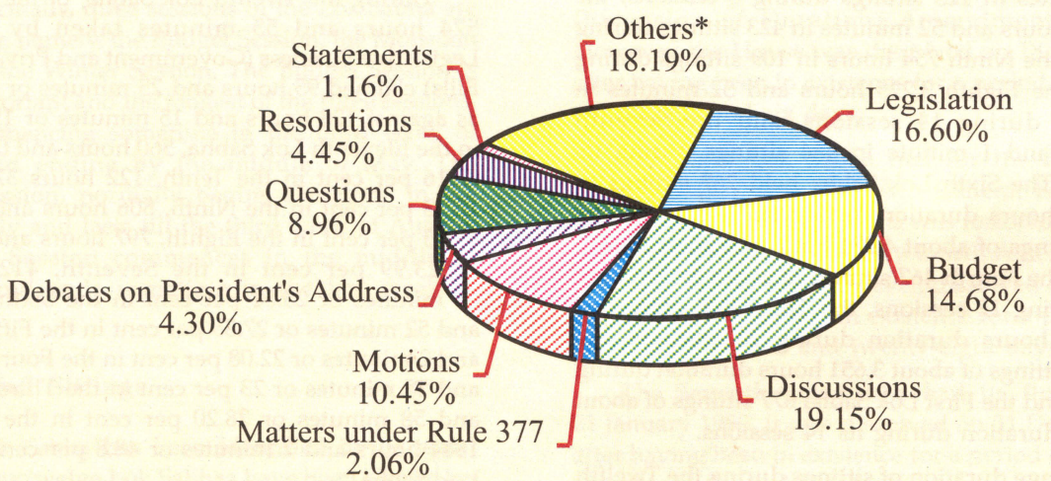
The percentage of time taken on Resolutions in the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 4.45 of the total as against 4.59 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 6.23 per cent in the Tenth, 5.77 per cent in the Ninth, 5.47 in the Eighth, 3.96 in the Seventh, 3.72 in the Sixth and 5.17 in the Fifth. It was 6.45 per cent in the Fourth, 5.90 per cent in the Third and 5.50 per cent in the Second. The First Lok Sabha devoted 6.30 per cent of its time on Resolutions.

The time taken on Motions in the Twelfth Lok Sabha was 10.45 per cent of the total time as against 17.33 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, 6.33 per cent in the Tenth, 4.34 per cent in the Ninth, 3.66 per cent in the Eighth, 6.35 per cent in the Seventh, 10.70 per cent in the Sixth, 6.55 per cent in the Fifth, 9.22 per cent in the Fourth, 13.20 per cent in the Third, 13.70 per cent in the Second and 7.10 per cent in the First Lok Sabha.

The remaining time was taken on Calling Attention Notices, Discussions under rules 55 and 193, Debates on President's Address, Statements made by the Ministers, Points of Order and other miscellaneous items as per details given in Statement 12. The following diagram shows the percentage of time spent on various kinds of business during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Statement 13 enumerates, in a chronological order, the important items of business transacted by the Twelfth Lok Sabha as also the important events that took place during its tenure.

TIME SPENT ON VARIOUS KINDS OF BUSINESS DURING TWELFTH LOK SABHA



* Include Calling Attention, Matters of Urgent Public Importance raised after Question Hour, Oath or Affirmation, Papers Laid on the Table, Obituary References, Points of Order, Questions of Privilege, etc.

STATEMENT 10

Dates of Commencement and Termination of the Sessions of the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sessions	Date of Commencement	Date of Termination	Total number of days on which sittings were held	Total number of days on which the House sat during the year
		1998		
First	23.3.1998	31.3.1998	8	64
Second	27.5.1998	06.08.1998	38	
Third	30.11.1998	23.12.1998	18	
		1999		
Fourth	22.02.1999	22.04.1999	24	24

STATEMENT 11

Number and Duration of the Sittings of the Lok Sabha* (A Comparative Profile)

Year	No. of Sittings	Duration of Sittings (in hours approx.)
1	2	3
1929	62	295
1930	55	261
1931	83	394
1932	68	396
1933	109	510
1934	89	423
1935	66	206

* Figures relate to Lok Sabha from 13 May 1952 onwards. In respect of the earlier periods, these relate to either the Central Legislative Assembly (from 28 January 1929 to 3 February 1947) or the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) (from 17 November 1947 to 28 November 1949) or the Provisional Parliament (from 28 January 1950 to 5 February 1952).

(Contd.)

1	2	3
1936	86	409
1937	78	468
1938	99	468
1939	59	280
1940	52	247
1941	46	219
1942	41	194
1943	67	319
1944	52	247
1945	41	194
1946	75	356
1947	68	323
1948	74	352
1949	79	362
1950	99	496
1951	150	987
1952	123	880
1953	137	749
1954	137	716
1955	139	859
1956	151	1,026
1957	106	668
1958	125	781
1959	123	792
1960	121	798
1961	102	668
1962	116	730
1963	122	787
1964	122	753
1965	113	730
1966	119	810
1967	110	699
1968	120	801
1969	120	747

(Contd.)

1	2	3
1970	119	782
1971	102	616
1972	111	700
1973	120	814
1974	119	853
1975	63	442
1976	98	645
1977	86	568
1978	115	768
1979	66	417
1980	98	679
1981	105	721
1982	92	640
1983	93	709
1984	77	575
1985	109	729
1986	98	693
1987	102	646
1988	102	677
1989	83	546
1990	81	584
1991	90	592
1992	98	575
1993	89	570
1994	77	445
1995	78	403
1996	71	394
1997	65	447
1998	64	438
1999@	24	137

@ The last sitting of the Twelfth Lok Sabha was held on 22 April 1999.

STATEMENT 12

Time Taken by the Twelfth Lok Sabha on Various Kinds of Business

Sl.No.	Type of Business	Time Taken		Percentage of Total Time
		Hrs.	Mts.	
1	2	3		4
1.	Adjournment Motions	Nil	Nil	
2.	Bills			
	(a) Government Bills	83	34	14.54
	(b) Private Members' Bills	11	51	2.06
3.	Budget			
	(a) Railway Budget	44	57	7.82
	(b) General Budget	38	18	6.66
	(c) Budget in respect of States/UTs under President's Rule	1	11	0.20
4.	Calling Attention Notices (Under rule 197)	5	36	0.97
5.	Discussions			
	(a) Half-an-Hour Discussion (Under rule 55)	3	00	0.52
	(b) Short Duration Discussion (Under rule 193)	107	06	18.63
6.	Matters of Urgent Public Importance raised after the Question Hour	51	55	9.03

(Contd.)

1	2	3		4
7.	Matters under rule 377	11	51	2.06
8.	Motions			
	(a) Under rules 191 and 342	60	00	10.44
	(b) Under rule 388	0	03	0.01
9.	Debates on President's Address	24	45	4.30
10.	Questions	51	30	8.96
11.	Resolutions			
	(a) Resolutions placed before the House by the Speaker	Nil		Nil
	(b) Government Resolutions	0	02	0.01
	(c) Statutory Resolutions	17	19	3.01
	(d) Private Members' Resolutions	8	13	1.43
12.	Statements (Under rules 357 and 372)	6	40	1.16
13.	Other matters such as Oath or Affirmation, Papers Laid on the Table, Obituary References, Points of Order, Questions of Privilege, Personal Explanations, etc.	47	04	8.19
	Total	574	55	100.00

STATEMENT 13

Chronology of Important Events

1998

First Session

23.3.1998	The First Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha commenced.
24.3.1998	Election to the office of the Speaker, Lok Sabha took place. The motion moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee regarding choosing Shri G.M.C. Balayogi as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha was adopted and Shri Balayogi was declared elected as the Speaker.
25.3.1998	The President, Shri K.R. Narayanan addressed the members of both the Houses assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House.
	Interim Budget (Railways) for 1998-99 was presented.
	Interim Budget (General) for 1998-99 was presented.
	The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee made a statement regarding 'natural calamity in Bengal and Orissa on 24.3.1998.'
26.3.1998	General discussion and voting on Demands for Grants on Account (General).
	General discussion and voting on Demands for Grants on Account (Railways).
27.3.1998 28.3.1998	The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee moved the Motion for confidence in the Council of Ministers. The debate on the Motion went on for two days and the motion was adopted on 28.3.1999.
31.3.1998	The First Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha concluded.

Second Session

27.5.1998	The Second Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha commenced. The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee made a statement regarding `nuclear test at Pokharan'.
29.5.1998	The Minister of Defence, Shri George Fernandes made a statement regarding Pakistan's nuclear tests.
1.6.1998 2.6.1998 3.6.1998	Discussion under rule 193 on `incidents of suicide committed by farmers in various parts of the country due to non-payment of remunerative prices for their agricultural produce.'
4.6.1998 5.6.1998 8.6.1998 9.6.1998	'The Status Paper on Railways' was discussed.
10.6.1998	The Minister of Agriculture, Shri Som Pal made a statement regarding `situation caused by cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan'.

3.7.1998	The House adjourned for the day without transacting any business after making obituary reference to the passing away of Shri Chandubhai Deshmukh, a sitting member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha and a member of the Ninth, the Tenth and the Eleventh Lok Sabha.
6.7.1998	The Minister of Finance, Shri Yashwant Sinha made a statement regarding `Constitution of the Eleventh Finance Commission.'
9.7.1998	Discussion under rule 193 on `rise in prices of essential commodities.'
17.7.1998	The Minister of Home Affairs, Shri L.K. Advani made a statement regarding staging of a Marathi play in Mumbai-'Mee Nathuram Godse Boltoyue.'
23.7.1998 24.7.1998 27.7.1998 28.7.1998	Discussion under rule 197 on 'increasing atrocities on women'.
28.7.1998	The Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Murli Manohar Joshi made a statement regarding 'the action by the US Government in serving notices to certain Indian scientists for return to India.'
31.7.1998	The Final Report of the Jain Commission investigating the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case and the Memorandum of Action Taken on the Report was laid on the Table of the House.
5.8.1998	The Minister of Commerce, Shri Ramakrishna Hegde made a statement regarding `important measures that are being taken to increase export.'
	The Minister of Defence, Shri George Fernandes made a statement regarding 'situation along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.'
6.8.1998	The Second Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha concluded.

Third Session

30.11.1998	The Third Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha commenced.
1.12.1998	The House adjourned for the day without transacting any business after making obituary reference to the passing away of Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav, a sitting member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.
3.12.1998 7.12.1998 8.12.1998	Discussion under rule 193 on 'rise in prices of essential commodities.'
8.12.1998 9.12.1998 10.12.1998 15.12.1998 16.12.1998	Discussion under rule 193 on 'atrocities committed on minorities in various parts of the country.'
17.12.1998	Election to the office of the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha took place. The motion regarding choosing Shri P.M. Sayeed as the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, moved by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was unanimously adopted.
23.12.1998	The Third Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha concluded.

1999

Fourth Session

22.2.1999	The Fourth Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha commenced.
	The President, Shri K.R. Narayanan addressed the members of both Houses assembled together in the Central Hall of the Parliament House.
24.2.1999	Statutory Resolution regarding approval of the Proclamation issued by the President on 10.2.1999 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Goa was adopted.
25.2.1999	Budget (Railways) for 1999-2000 was presented.
	The Foreign Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh made a statement regarding the Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan.
27.2.1999	Budget (General) for 1999-2000 was presented.
4.3.1999	A member (Shri Ashok Gehlot) resigned from the Membership of the Lok Sabha.
8.3.1999	The Minister of Home Affairs, Shri L.K. Advani made a statement regarding revocation of President's Rule in the State of Bihar.
10.3.1999	The Patents(Amendment) Bill, 1999 (passed by the Rajya Sabha on 22.12.1998, amendments made by the Lok Sabha on 10.3.1999 were considered and agreed to by the Rajya Sabha on 13.3.1999 and got President's assent on 26.3.1999).
15.3.1999 16.3.1999	Discussion on Budget (General) for 1999-2000.
16.3.1999	Discussion under rule 193 on 'allegations levelled by the former Adviser to the Finance Minister against the Government.'
15.4.1999	The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, moved the Motion expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers. The debate on the Motion went on for three days and the Motion was negatived on 17.4.1999.
22.4.1999	The Fourth Session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha concluded after completing the financial business.
26.4.1999	The Twelfth Lok Sabha was dissolved by the President of India.

3

MEMBERS AND MINISTERS

Membership of Lok Sabha

Article 81 of the Constitution of India provides that the House of the People (Lok Sabha) shall consist of not more than 530 members chosen by direct election from the territorial constituencies in the States and not more than 20 members to represent the Union territories. Under article 331 of the Constitution, the President may, if he is of the opinion that the Anglo-Indian community is not adequately represented in the House, nominate not more than two members of that community to the House. In pursuance of this provision, two members of this community have been nominated to all the Lok Sabhas so far.

Article 82 of the Constitution, as amended by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, provides that the number of seats as allocated and the territorial extent of constituencies as determined by the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1976, are unalterable until the publication of population figures of the first census following the year 2000. In other words, till the population figures taken in the census of the year 2001 are published, there can be no change in the existing number of seats allotted in Lok Sabha to various States and Union territories. There can be no fresh delimitation of parliamentary constituencies also in the States and Union territories due to the same reason. As per the existing delimitation of constituencies, there are 543 elective seats in the Lok Sabha.

The allocation of seats in the Twelfth Lok Sabha to the various States and Union territories is indicated in the following Statement.

STATEMENT 14

Allocation of Seats to States and Union Territories in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

States/Union Territories		No. of Seats
1		2
I. STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	02
3.	Assam	14
4.	Bihar	54
5.	Goa	02
6.	Gujarat	26
7.	Haryana	10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	04
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	06
10.	Karnataka	28
11.	Kerala	20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40
13.	Maharashtra	48
14.	Manipur	02
15.	Meghalaya	02
16.	Mizoram	01
17.	Nagaland	01
18.	Orissa	21

(Contd.)

1		2
19.	Punjab	13
20.	Rajasthan	25
21.	Sikkim	01
22.	Tamil Nadu	39
23.	Tripura	02
24.	Uttar Pradesh	85
25.	West Bengal	42
II. UNION TERRITORIES		
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	01
27.	Chandigarh	01
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01
29.	Daman & Diu	01
30.	Delhi	07
31.	Lakshadweep	01
32.	Pondicherry	01

Following the completion of the General Elections held on 16, 22 and 28 February 1998 and 7 March 1998, the Twelfth Lok Sabha was constituted on 10 March 1998. It comprised 539 members elected from various parliamentary constituencies in the States and Union territories. There were in all four vacancies (1-Bihar, 1-Himachal Pradesh and 2- Jammu & Kashmir) in the Twelfth Lok Sabha at the time of its constitution as well as at its first sitting which was held on 23 March 1998. Two persons namely, Dr. (Mrs.) Beatrix D'souza and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) N.Foley from the Anglo Indian Community were nominated by the President on 24 March 1998 in terms of article 331 of the Constitution.

Socio-Economic Profile of Members

On the basis of Statistical details about the socio-economic background of the members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, an analysis of their age distribution, educational background, occupational pattern and previous legislative experience has been made. The main findings are summarised in the following paragraphs:

I. Age Distribution: In the Twelfth Lok Sabha, Shri Aditya Nath, (25 years) was the youngest member and Shri Ishwarbhai K. Chavda (85 years) was the oldest. Among the women members, Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia (78 years) was the oldest, while Smt. Reena Choudhary (29 years) was the youngest. The House had the average age of 46.4 years (calculated on the basis of the information furnished by 535 members). In terms of averages, the Twelfth Lok Sabha becomes the youngest House so far. The distribution of members by age groups and average age in various Lok Sabhas is indicated in Statement 15.

A perusal of the Statement showing age profile reveals that not only in the Twelfth but in the Eleventh the Tenth and the Ninth Lok Sabhas too, the maximum number of members (98, 82, 87 and 92 respectively) were in the age group of 46-50 years.

In the Eighth Lok Sabha, the maximum number of members (80 or 15.1 per cent) were in the age group of 56-60 years as against only 87 members or 16.8 per cent in the Seventh Lok Sabha. In the Sixth, the Fifth and the Fourth Lok Sabhas, the maximum number of members were grouped in 46-50 years, whereas the age-groups 41-45, 36-40 and 51-55 claimed the maximum number of members in the Third, Second and First Lok Sabhas respectively.

The minimum number of members in the Twelfth, Eleventh, Tenth, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Fourth and the Third Lok Sabhas were in the age group of 81-85 whereas in the Second and the First Lok Sabhas, the minimum number was in the age group of 71-75. In the Ninth Lok Sabha, the minimum number of members (one each) were in the age groups of 76-80 and 86-90.

II. Educational Background: Though the Constitution does not stipulate any formal educational qualification for being a member of Parliament, an analysis* of the educational profile reveals that members elected to the Twelfth Lok Sabha possessed high

*Analysed on the basis of information furnished by 529 members.

educational qualifications and it showed an upward swing as compared to the previous Lok Sabhas.

With 77.49 per cent of its members having educational qualifications of the level of graduation and above, the Twelfth Lok Sabha stood next only to the Ninth Lok Sabha which was the most educated House so far (78.23 per cent) in terms of academic qualifications.

However, Post-graduates (149) and Doctoral or equivalent degree holders (24) had a representation of 32.69 per cent in the Twelfth Lok Sabha as compared to 34.42 per cent, the highest ever, in the Eleventh Lok Sabha. Undergraduates (*i.e.* members who have studied for Graduation without completing it) who had 11.31 per cent representation in the Tenth Lok Sabha, recorded a marked decline in their representation to 3.4 per cent only in the Twelfth Lok Sabha. However, compared to the Eleventh Lok Sabha, this shows a slight increase of 1.9 per cent. The category of Matriculates/Higher Secondary/Intermediate Certificate holders had 16.82 per cent representation in the Twelfth Lok Sabha in comparison to 18.18 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha. The under-matriculates, in the Twelfth Lok Sabha had 2.26 per cent representation as compared to 2.90 per cent in the previous House and 2.09 per cent, the lowest ever, in the Ninth Lok Sabha. Incidently the Third Lok Sabha had the highest number of non-matriculate members (28.7 per cent) followed by the Second Lok Sabha (25.4 per cent).

Detailed information on the educational background of members from the First to the Twelfth Lok Sabha is contained in Statement 16.

III. Occupational Pattern: An analysis of the occupational pattern of the members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, on the basis of information furnished by 532 members out of 545, reveals that as in the Eleventh Lok Sabha, in the Twelfth Lok Sabha too, agriculturists constituted the largest group of 261 accounting for 49.06 per cent of the total membership as against 38.98 per cent in the Eleventh Lok Sabha. In the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and the Tenth Lok Sabhas also, this was the largest group and the percentage-wise representation of this category was 27.4, 30.6, 33.2, 36, 39.3, 38.3, 44.14 and 32.09 respectively. In the First and the Second Lok Sabha, agriculturists were the second largest group with 22.5 and 29.1 per cent of the total membership respectively.

After agriculturists, the second largest category of members in the Twelfth Lok Sabha was that of political and social workers who had 18.04 per cent representation in the House. In the Eleventh, Tenth, Ninth, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Fourth and the Third Lok Sabhas, this percentage was 19.58, 18.11, 17.08, 16, 17.2, 20, 19, 22.9 and 18.7 respectively.

The third largest group in the Twelfth Lok Sabha was that of lawyers with 10.15 per cent representation. In the Eleventh, Tenth, Ninth, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, and the Fourth Lok Sabhas, this group held the position with 12.24, 16.34, 15.35, 19.1, 22.2, 23.4, 20.5 and 17.5 per cent representation, respectively. In the First, the Second and the Third Lok Sabhas, the percentage representation of this group to the total membership was 35.6, 30.5 and 24.5 respectively.

Other categories which had sizable representation in the Twelfth Lok Sabha were (i) teachers and educationists (5.26 per cent), (ii) traders and industrialists (2.25 per cent), (iii) medical practitioners (3.19 per cent) and (iv) civil, police & military service (1.87 per cent).

One of the most significant developments in the occupational composition of the Lok Sabha between the First and the Twelfth Lok Sabha, has been the gradual replacement of members from the legal profession by the agriculturalists. From a position of being the largest professional group in the First Lok Sabha, the lawyers as a group had been pushed down to the third position in the Twelfth Lok Sabha. This shift reflects a profound change in the power configuration of the country.

Statement 17 gives detailed information on members of the First to the Twelfth Lok Sabhas by prior occupation.

IV. Legislative Experiences: The Twelfth Lok Sabha had 39.8 per cent of the total members, *i.e.*, 217 out of 545 as new entrants who had their previous legislative experience confined either to the Rajya Sabha or the State Legislatures or having no legislative experience at all. 248 members were re-elected from the Eleventh Lok Sabha. Out of 217 new entrants to the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 15 members had the experience of serving in the Rajya Sabha. 130 members were with experience only in State Legislatures and as many as 100 members were totally fresh and had no experience in the Legislative arena. The last two categories taken together comprised those 202 members did not have previous legislative experience in either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha. The corresponding figure for the Eleventh, Tenth and Ninth Lok Sabhas was 276, 183 and 264. The Twelfth Lok Sabha had no member with experience in the Central Legislative Assembly or the Constituent Assembly or the Provisional Parliament.

V. Women Members: The representation of women in the successive Lok Sabha has remained between 19-44 members. The Twelfth Lok Sabha at the time of its formation had 44 women members which constituted 8.1 per cent of total members, and equal to that of the Eighth Lok Sabha which had the distinction of having the largest ever number of women representation (44) whereas the lowest so far was in the Sixth Lok Sabha (19) constituting 3.4 per cent of the total members. The Seventh and the Ninth Lok Sabhas had an equal number of women members, *i.e.*, 28 each. The Tenth Lok Sabha in the beginning had 36 women members but their representation subsequently increased to 40 (7.07 per cent). The Eleventh Lok Sabha too had 40 women members constituting 7.36 per cent of the total.

The number of women members in the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabhas were 22 (4.4 per cent), 27 (5.4 per cent), 34 (6.7 per cent), 31 (5.9 per cent) and 22 (4.2 per cent) respectively.

Seventeen women members out of the total (44) in the Twelfth Lok Sabha were Post-Graduates and 16 were Graduates. 75 per cent women members were thus possessing qualifications equivalent to or above graduation level.

An analysis of the occupational structure of women members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha shows that 19 (43.18 per cent) women members were political and social workers followed by 11 (25 per cent) having agriculture as their occupation.

Expenditure on Members

Information on annual expenditure incurred on members during the Twelfth Lok Sabha *vis-a-vis* the First to the Eleventh Lok Sabhas is contained in Statement 18.

Council of Ministers

On 15 March 1998, the President invited Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party, the single largest party in the Lok Sabha, to form the Government. He was sworn in as the Prime Minister of India on 19 March 1998. Statement 19 contains the name of members of the Union Council of Ministers alongwith their portfolios held by each from time to time during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Leave of Absence

During the span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, seven members were granted leave of absence from the sittings of the House. Statement 20 gives details of leave of absence granted to members.

Resignation by Members

During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha only one member namely Shri Ashok Gehlot resigned his seat in the House Statement 21.

Death of Sitting Members

Shri Chandubhai Deshmukh and Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav, sitting members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, died during its tenure.

Obituary References

In all, 58 obituary references were made during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Details of these obituary references are given in Statement 22.

STATEMENT 15

Distribution of Members by Age Groups from First to Twelfth Lok Sabha

Age group/Year	1st Lok Sabha		2nd Lok Sabha		3rd Lok Sabha		4th Lok Sabha		5th Lok Sabha		6th Lok Sabha		7th Lok Sabha		8th Lok Sabha		9th Lok Sabha		10th Lok Sabha		11th Lok Sabha		12th Lok Sabha	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
25-30 years	28	6.00	13	2.60	11	2.30	22	4.40	16	3.10	18	3.50	9	1.70	7	1.30	14	2.68	8	1.58	11	2.13	11	2.05
31-35 years	54	11.60	60	12.30	34	7.10	37	7.50	28	5.50	26	5.00	43	8.30	36	6.80	17	3.25	32	6.34	22	4.26	23	4.29
36-40 years	58	12.50	91	18.70	64	13.70	68	13.70	62	12.30	62	11.90	71	13.70	60	11.30	55	10.53	50	9.90	43	8.33	45	8.41
41-45 years	68	14.70	71	14.60	79	16.60	84	17.00	76	15.00	69	13.30	75	15.50	73	13.70	76	14.55	75	14.85	77	14.92	78	14.57
46-50 years	74	16.00	64	13.10	73	15.40	85	17.00	99	19.60	94	18.10	70	13.50	77	14.50	92	17.62	87	17.23	82	15.89	98	18.31
51-55 years	93	20.30	76	15.60	69	14.50	69	14.00	94	18.60	94	18.10	84	16.20	74	13.90	82	15.70	71	14.06	80	15.50	83	15.51
56-60 years	47	10.10	70	14.40	58	12.20	55	11.00	57	11.30	66	12.70	87	16.80	80	15.10	68	13.02	65	12.87	65	12.59	64	11.96
61-65 years	29	6.20	25	5.10	58	12.20	39	7.90	35	6.90	41	8.00	41	7.90	74	13.90	63	12.06	66	13.07	59	11.43	61	11.9
66-70 years	10	2.00	12	2.40	21	4.40	25	5.00	25	4.90	33	6.40	24	4.60	30	5.70	41	7.85	32	6.34	47	9.10	44	8.22
71-75 years	1	0.20	4	1.00	6	1.20	10	2.00	9	1.70	11	2.10	11	2.10	11	2.10	12	2.29	14	2.77	19	3.68	19	3.55
76-80 years	–	–	–	–	1	0.20	01	0.20	2	0.40	4	0.70	3	0.60	6	1.10	1	0.19	4	0.79	8	1.55	7	1.3
81-85 years	–	–	–	–	1	0.20	01	0.20	1	0.20	1	0.20	1	0.02	3	0.60	–	–	1	0.20	3	0.58	2	0.37
86-90 years	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.19	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total number of members who have supplied information	462		486		475		496		504		519		519		531		522		505		516		535	
Total number of Seats	499		500		503		523		521		544		544		544		529		509		543		545*	
Average Age (yrs.)	46.5		46.7		49.4		48.7		49.2		52.1		49.9		51.4		51.3		51.4		52.8		46.4	

*Including two nominated members.

STATEMENT 16

Educational Background of Members from First to Twelfth Lok Sabha

Educational Background	1st Lok Sabha		2nd Lok Sabha		3rd Lok Sabha		4th Lok Sabha		5th Lok Sabha		6th Lok Sabha		7th Lok Sabha		8th Lok Sabha		9th Lok Sabha		10th Lok Sabha		11th Lok Sabha		12th Lok Sabha	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
Under-Matriculates	112	23.2	120	25.4	141	28.7	54	11.5	119	23.1	52	9.8	53	10.0	42	7.9	10	2.09	18	3.57	15	2.90	12	2.26
Matriculates/ Higher Secondary or Intermediate Certificate holders	88	18.4	90	19.1	87	17.7	101	22.1	82	16.0	132	24.9	118	22.3	112	21.0	94	19.66	44	8.73	94	18.18	89	16.82
Under Graduates	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	57	11.31	8	1.54	18	3.4
Graduates (including those with equivalent technical qualifications)	177	37.1	160	33.9	157	32.0	172	35.4	178	34.6	205	38.7	213	40.3	238	44.6	233	48.74	220	43.65	222	42.94	237	44.8
Post-Graduates (including those with technical qualifications)	85	17.8	92	19.5	98	20.0	113	24.7	127	24.7	132	24.9	136	25.8	131	24.6	124	25.94	145	28.77	149	28.82	149	28.16
Doctoral Degree or other high academic qualification holders	15	3.5	9	2.1	7	1.6	17	3.7	8	1.5	9	1.7	8	1.5	10	1.9	17	3.55	20	3.97	29	5.60	24	4.52
Total number of members who have supplied information	477		471		490		457		514		530		528		533		478		504		517		529	
Total number of seats	499		500		503		523		521		544		544		544		529		509		543		545*	

*Including two nominated members.

STATEMENT 17

Occupational Background of Members from First to Twelfth Lok Sabha

Prior Occupation	1st Lok Sabha		2nd Lok Sabha		3rd Lok Sabha		4th Lok Sabha		5th Lok Sabha		6th Lok Sabha		7th Lok Sabha		8th Lok Sabha		9th Lok Sabha		10th Lok Sabha		11th Lok Sabha		12th Lok Sabha	
	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age	No.	%age
Agriculturists/ Horticulturists	97	22.5	141	29.1	129	27.4	154	30.6	168	33.2	189	36.0	206	39.3	203	38.3	230	44.14	163	32.09	207	38.98	261	49.06
Artists	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.2	–	–	–	–	1	0.2	5	0.9	4	0.76	5	0.98	7	1.31	6	1.12
Businessmen	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	4.53	31	5.83	8	1.5
Chartered Accts.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.18
Civil, Police & Military Service	16	3.7	19	4	4	0.9	16	3.2	17	3.4	9	1.7	5	0.9	16	3.0	6	1.15	16	3.15	13	2.44	10	1.87
Co-operative Leaders	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	0.75	–	–
Diplomats	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	0.57	4	0.79	4	0.75	2	0.37
Economists	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.19	–	–	1	0.18	1	0.18
Engineers and Technologists	–	–	–	–	4	0.9	7	1.4	6	1.2	5	0.9	6	1.1	4	0.8	11	2.11	7	1.38	9	1.69	5	0.93
Former Rulers	5	1.1	7	1.4	10	2.1	7	1.4	2	0.4	3	0.6	1	0.2	3	0.6	2	0.38	3	0.59	–	–	2	0.37
Judges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.18
Industrial Workers/Trade Unionists	–	–	–	–	1	0.2	1	0.2	–	–	9	1.7	4	0.8	7	1.3	2	0.38	4	0.79	4	0.75	11	2.06
Journalists/ Writers	45	10.4	50	10.2	27	5.8	24	4.8	32	6.3	11	2.7	15	2.9	7	1.3	14	2.68	11	2.17	8	1.50	7	1.31
Lawyers	153	35.6	147	30.5	115	24.5	88	17.5	103	20.5	123	23.4	116	22.2	101	19.1	80	15.35	83	16.34	65	12.24	54	10.15
Management Consultants	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	0.37	2	0.37
Medical Practitioners	21	4.9	17	3.5	14	3.0	14	2.8	9	1.7	10	1.9	10	1.9	21	4.0	18	3.45	25	4.92	16	3.01	17	3.19
Pilots	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.19	1	0.20	2	0.37	–	–
Political and Social Workers	–	–	–	–	88	18.7	115	22.9	96	19.0	105	20.0	90	17.2	85	16.0	89	17.08	92	18.11	104	19.58	96	18.04
Religious Missionaries	–	–	–	–	1	0.2	4	0.8	2	0.4	–	–	1	0.2	1	0.2	–	–	3	0.59	1	0.18	4	0.75
Scientists	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.20	–	–	–	–
Sportspersons	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	0.39	–	–	3	0.56
Teachers, Educationists	43	9.9	55	11.3	27	5.8	33	6.5	36	7.1	44	8.4	35	6.7	41	7.7	41	7.68	49	9.65	43	8.09	28	5.66
Traders and Industrialists	52	12.0	50	10.2	50	10.3	39	7.5	35	6.8	17	3.3	33	6.3	36	6.8	19	3.64	16	3.15	14	2.63	12	2.25
Veterinarians	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0.18
Total number of members who supplied information	432		486		470		503		506		525		523		530		521		508		531		532	
Total number of seats	499		500		503		523		521		544		544		544		529		509		543		545*	

*Including two nominated members.

STATEMENT 18

Expenditure on Members

	Year	Expenditure incurred (in Rupees)
	1	2
First Lok Sabha	1952-53	37,96,818
	1953-54	38,89,783
	1954-55	46,00,620
	1955-56	52,03,214
	1956-57	43,89,087
	Total	2,18,79,522
Second Lok Sabha	1957-58	48,61,383
	1958-59	45,80,692
	1959-60	47,40,870
	1960-61	44,79,964
	1961-62 (Upto December, 1961)	32,76,756
	Total	2,19,39,665
Third Lok Sabha	1962-63	50,02,715
	1963-64	48,29,589
	1964-65	68,23,153
	1965-66 (Upto November, 1966)	47,45,730
	Total	2,14,01,187
Fourth Lok Sabha	1967-68	76,81,929
	1968-69	81,81,379
	1969-70	1,11,52,543
	1970-71 (Upto December, 1970)	88,22,725
	Total	3,58,38,576
Fifth Lok Sabha	1971-72	1,11,94,646
	1972-73	1,43,64,276
	1973-74	1,36,97,156
	1974-75	1,61,38,257
	1975-76	1,67,63,224
	1976-77 (Upto December, 1976)	1,38,24,598
	Total	8,59,82,157

(Contd.)

1		2
Sixth Lok Sabha	1977-78	1,88,30,567
	1978-79	3,12,65,993
	1979-80 (Upto 22 August, 1979)	84,50,374
	Total	5,85,46,934
Seventh Lok Sabha	1980-81	2,98,46,458
	1981-82	3,76,24,227
	1982-83	3,92,66,880
	1983-84	4,29,55,090
	1984-85 (Upto 30 September, 1984)	1,63,73,034
	Total	16,60,65,690
Eighth Lok Sabha	1985-86	2,13,89,199
	1986-87	3,74,68,338
	1987-88	4,79,64,617
	1988-89	5,17,33,529
	1989-90 (Upto 30 September, 1989)	2,43,33,197
	Total	18,28,88,880
Ninth Lok Sabha	1989-90	7,78,08,044
	1990-91 (Upto 13 March, 1991)	9,95,31,936
	Total	17,73,39,980
Tenth Lok Sabha	1991-92	10,22,10,512
	1992-93	13,54,71,709
	1993-94	22,61,31,333
	1994-95	22,28,54,276
	1995-96	30,77,30,769
	Total	99,43,98,599
Eleventh Lok Sabha	1996-97	13,11,25,147
	1997-98 (Upto 4 December, 1997)	16,28,95,967
	Total	29,40,21,114
Twelfth Lok Sabha	1998-99	40,60,75,463
	1999-2000 (Upto 30 April, 1999)	2,85,63,267
	Total	43,46,38,730

STATEMENT 19

Names and Portfolios of Members of Union Council of Ministers during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl.No	Name	Portfolio (s) with period thereof
1	2	3
		Part I
		Prime Minister
1.	Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari	Prime Minister and also incharge of Ministries/Departments not specifically allocated to the charge of any Cabinet Minister or State Minister (Independent Charge) (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
		Also held the charge of the Ministry of Agriculture (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of Water Resources (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Deptt. of Atomic Energy (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Deptt. of Space (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of External Affairs (19.3.1998 to 5.12.1998); Ministry of Food Processing Industries (From 19.3.1998 to 3.2.1999); Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (19.3.1998 to 3.2.1999); Deptt. of Electronics (From 19.3.1998 to 3.2.1999); Deptt. of Ocean Development (From 19.3.1998 to 3.2.1999); Deptt. of Jammu & Kashmir Affairs (From 19.3.1998 to 22.5.1998); Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (From 11.10.1998 to 5.12.1998); Ministry of Communications (From 11.10.1998 to 5.12.1998 again From 8.6.1999 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of Railways (From 5.8.1999 to 6.8.1999); Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (From 14.8.1999 to 16.8.1999).
		Part II
		Cabinet Ministers
1.	Advani, Shri L K.	Minister of Home Affairs (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
2.	Bakht, Shri Sikander	Minister of Industry (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
3.	Barnala, Shri Surjit Singh	Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers (From 19.3.1999 to 13.10.1999)
		Additional Charge of Ministry of Food (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
4.	Durai, Shri. M. Thambi	Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (From 19.3.1998 to 8.4.1999)
		Minister of Surface Transport (From 8.4.1998 to 8.4.1999)

(Contd.)

1	2	3
5.	Fernandes, Shri George	Minister of Defence (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
6.	Hegde, Shri Ramakrishna	Minister of Commerce (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
7.	Jagmohan, Shri	Minister of Communications (From 5.12.1998 to 8.6.1999) Minister of Urban Affairs (From 8.6.1999 to 13.10.1999)
8.	Jatiya, Shri Satyanarayan	Minister of Labour (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
9.	Jethmalani, Shri Ram	Minister of Urban Development (From 19.3.1998 to 8.6.1999) Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (From 8.6.1999 to 13.10.1999)
10.	Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar	Minister of Human Resource Development (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999) Addl. Charge of Ministry of Science & Technology (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999) and Deptt. of Ocean Development (From 3.2.1999 to 13.10.1999) Relinquished the charge of Deptt. of Youth Affairs and Sports and Deptt. of Women and Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 1.3.1999.
11.	Khurana, Shri Madan Lal	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Tourism (From 19.3.1998 to 30.1.1999)
12.	Kumar, Shri Ananth	Minister of Civil Aviation (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999) Addl. Charge of Ministry of Tourism (From 30.1.1999 to 13.10.1999)
13.	Kumar, Shri Nitish	Minister of Railways (From 19.3.1998 to 5.8.1998) Addl. Charge of Ministry of Surface Transport (From 9.4.1999 to 5.8.1999)
14.	Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.	Minister of Power (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999) Addl. Charge of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (From 30.1.1999 to 13.10.1999) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (From 3.2.1999 to 13.10.1999) and Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (From 9.4.1999 to 8.6.1999)
15.	Mahajan, Shri Pramod	Minister of Information and Broadcasting (From 5.12.1998 to 13.10.1999) Addl. Charge of Ministry of Food Processing Industries (From 3.2.1999 to 13.10.1999)

(Contd.)

1	2	3
16.	Muthiah, Shri R.	Minister of Surface Transport (From 19.3.1998 to 8.4.1998)
17.	Patnaik, Shri Naveen	Minister of Steel and Mines (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
18.	Prabhu, Shri Suresh	Minister of Environment and Forests (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
19.	Ramamurthy, Shri K.	Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
20.	Rana, Shri Kashi Ram	Minister of Textiles (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
21.	Singh, Shri Buta	Minister of Communications (From 19.3.1998 to 20.4.1998)
22.	Singh, Shri Jaswant	Minister of External Affairs (From 5.12.1998 to 13.10.1999) Addl. Charge of Deptt. of Electronics (From 3.2.1999 to 13.10.1999); Ministry of Surface Transport (From 5.8.1999 to 13.10.1999)
23.	Sinha, Shri Yashwant	Minister of Finance (From 19.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
24.	Swaraj, Smt. Sushma	Minister of Information & Broadcasting (From 19.3.1998 to 11.10.1998) Minister of Communications (From 20.4.1998 to 11.10.1998)

Part III

Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

1.	Ezhilmalai, Shri Dalit	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (From 20.3.1998 to 14.8.1999)
2.	Gandhi, Smt. Maneka	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Welfare (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)*
3.	Naik, Shri Ram	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Railways (From 6.8.1999 to 13.10.1999)
4.	Patel, Dr. A.K.	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (From 16.8.1999 to 13.10.1999)
5.	Patil, Shri Babagouda	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Rural Development (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
6.	Ray, Shri Dilip	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Coal (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999) Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (From 22.5.1998 to 13.10.1999)
7.	Uma Bharati, Km.	Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Human Resource Development; Deptt. of Youth Affairs & Sports and Deptt. of Women and Child Development (From 1.3.1999 to 13.10.1999)

* The name of the Ministry of Welfare has been changed as Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment w.e.f. 23.5.1998.

(Contd.)

1	2	3
		Part IV
		Ministers of State
1.	Apang, Shri Omak	Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
2.	Badal, Shri Sukhbir Singh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
3.	Bais, Shri Ramesh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
4.	Dattatreya, Shri Bandaru	Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
5.	Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (From 16.2.1999 to 13.10.1999)
6.	Janarthanan, Shri K.M.R.	Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (From 20.3.1998 to 8.4.1999); Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Bank, Revenue and Insurance) (From 22.5.1998 to 8.4.1999)
7.	Kumar, Shri R.K.	Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (From 20.3.1998 to 22.5.1998) Addl. Charge of Parliamentary Affairs (From 20.3.1998 to 22.5.1998)
8.	Marandi, Shri Babulal	Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
9.	Naik, Shri Ram	Minister of State for Railways (From 20.3.1998 to 6.8.1998); Minister of State for the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (From 20.3.1998 to 5.5.1999); Minister of State for Planning & Programme Implementation (From 20.3.1998 to...) Addl. Charge of the Minister of State for Home Affairs (From 5.5.1999 to 13.10.1999)
10.	Naqvi, Shri Mukhtar Abbas	Minister of State in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (From 16.2.1999 to 13.10.1999)
11.	Patel, Dr. A.K.	Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
12.	Pradhan, Shri Debendra	Minister of State in the Ministry of Surface Transport (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
13.	Purkayastha, Shri Kabindra	Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
14.	Raje, Smt. Vasundhara	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999); Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (From 9.4.1999 to 13.10.1999)
15.	Sompal, Shri	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (From 20.3.1998 to..) Addl. Charge of the Minister of State for Water Resources (From 3.2.1999 to 13.10.1999)
16.	Yadav, Shri Satyapal Singh	Minister of State for Civil Supplies, Food and Consumer Affairs (From 20.3.1998 to 13.10.1999)
17.	Uma Bharati, Km.	Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (From 20.3.1998 to 1.3.1999)

STATEMENT 20

Leave of Absence to Members

Sl. No.	Name of Member	Period for which leave granted	Date when leave granted
1.	Shri Udai Lal Ajna	27.5.1998 to 10.6.1998 (15 days)	
2.	Shri Abhaysinh S. Bhonsle	27.5.1998 to 12.6.1998 (17 days)	
3.	Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia	23.3.1998 to 31.3.1998 (9 days)	
		27.5.1998 to 12.6.1998 (17 days)	
		3.7.1998 to 22.7.1998 (20 days) [Total 46 days]	23.12.1998
4.	Shri Ram Krishna Patil	17.7.1998 to 5.8.1998 (20 days)	
5.	Shri Mani Kumar Subba	21.7.1998 to 6.8.1998 (17 days)	
6.	Shri Omar Abdullah	15.7.1998 to 6.8.1998 (23 days)	
7.	Smt. Malti Devi	30.11.1998 to 23.12.1998 (24 days)	

STATEMENT 21

Resignation by Members

Name of Member	State	Constituency	Date from which accepted by Speaker	Reason for resignation
Shri Ashok Gehlot	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	4.3.1999	Appointed as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan

STATEMENT 22

Obituary References

Sl. No.	Name of Member/ Dignitary and Particulars	Date of Death	Date of Obituary	Time Taken Hrs.	Mts.
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda (Member, First to Fifth Lok Sabha)	15.1.1998			
2.	Shri E.M.S. Namboodiripad (Former Chief Minister of Kerala)	19.3.1998			
3.	Shri Shrikrishna Vaijnath Dhamankar (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	6.4.1995			
4.	Smt. Vimla Deshmukh (Member, Third Lok Sabha)	9.9.1997			
5.	Shri Mohinder Singh Sayianwala (Member, Sixth Lok Sabha)	7.11.1997			
6.	Shri Chakleshwar Singh (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	14.11.1997			
7.	Shri Tridib Chaudhuri (Member, First to Seventh Lok Sabha)	21.12.1997	25.3.1998	0	17
8.	Shri Nurul Islam (Member, Seventh, Tenth and Eleventh Lok Sabhas)	30.12.1997			
9.	Shri Mohammed Idris Ali (Member, Eleventh Lok Sabha)	30.12.1997			
10.	Shri Bimalkanti Ghosh (Member, Fourth and Eighth Lok Sabhas)	1.1.1998			
11.	Shri M.A. Sreenivasan (Member, Constituent Assembly)	15.1.1998			

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
12.	Vaidya Dau Dayal Joshi (Member, Ninth to Eleventh Lok Sabha)	16.1.1998			
13.	Shri Bhola Nath Sen (Member, Eighth Lok Sabha)	18.1.1998			
14.	Reference to loss of several lives and property on account of the tragedy caused due to the tornado which hit the States of West Bengal and Orissa on 24 March, 1998	24.3.1998	25.3.1998	0	17
15.	Shri M. Nageshwararao (Member, Fifth to Seventh Lok Sabha)	13.1.1998	27.3.1998	0	03
16.	Shri V.K. Ramaswamy (Member, Third Lok Sabha)	25.1.1998			
17.	Shri V. Mayavan (Member, Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha)	6.1.1998			
18.	Shri D. Balaram Raju (Member, Third and Fourth Lok Sabha)	12.5.1998	27.5.1998	0	02
19.	Shri Darbara Singh (Member, Eleventh Lok Sabha)	24.5.1998			
20.	Shri M.R. Masani (Member, Central Legislative Assembly, Constituent Assembly, Provisional Parliament, Second and Fourth Lok Sabha)	27.5.1998	28.5.1998	0	04
21.	Shri Ratansinh Rajda (Member, Seventh Lok Sabha)	10.4.1998	29.5.1998	0	04
22.	Shri Purushottam Kakodkar (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	2.5.1998			

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
23.	Shri Teja Singh Dardi (Member, Eighth Lok Sabha)	27.4.1998	5.6.1998	0	02
24.	Shri Shikiho Sema (Member, Ninth Lok Sabha)	4.5.1998	8.6.1998	0	02
25.	Tragedy caused due to the severe cyclones in Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat and Jalore District of Rajasthan	9.6.1998	10.6.1998	0	01
26.	Shri Chandubhai Deshmukh, Sitting Member of Twelfth Lok Sabha and Member of Ninth to Eleventh Lok Sabha	28.6.1998	3.7.1998*	0	04
27.	Shri E.R. Krishnan (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	13.5.1998			
28.	Shri Vijayasinhrao Ramrao Dalle (Member, Third Lok Sabha)	12.7.1998	24.7.1998	0	03
29.	Shri Chandra Kishore Pathak (Member, Eighth Lok Sabha)	2.7.1998	4.8.1998	0	02
30.	Maj. Gen. Robert G. Williams (Member, Tenth Lok Sabha)	16.7.1998	5.8.1998	0	03
31.	Shri Nikunja Behari Chowdhury (Member, First Lok Sabha)	13.6.1999			
32.	Shri Dwaipayan Sen (Member, Fourth Lok Sabha)	17.6.1998			
33.	Shri Narsingh Yadav (Member, Sixth Lok Sabha)	9.7.1998			
34.	Shri Lakhan Lal Gupta (Member, Fourth Lok Sabha)	31.7.1998			
35.	Shri Banamali Babu (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	5.8.1998	30.11.1998	0	09
36.	Shri J. Rameshwar Rao (Member, Second to Sixth Lok Sabha)	15.9.1998			
37.	Shri T. Abdul Wahid (Member, Third Lok Sabha)	5.10.1998			
38.	Loss of several lives in land-slide in the hilly terrain of Pithoragarh on 18.8.1998 and tragic mishap in a train accident at Kauri village near Khanna in Punjab on 26.11.1998	18.8.1998			

*House was adjourned for the day without transacting any business.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
39.	Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav (Member, Twelfth Lok Sabha)	30.11.1998	1.12.1998*	0	02
40.	Shri L.V. Singh (Member, Ninth Lok Sabha)	8.11.1998	4.12.1998	0	02
41.	Shri Dasaratha Deb (Member, First to Third & Fifth Lok Sabhas)	14.10.1998	9.12.1998	0	03
42.	Shri Abdul Hannan Ansari (Member, Eighth Lok Sabha)	26.11.1998	21.12.1998	0	03
43.	Shri Harinath Misra (Member, Seventh Lok Sabha)	17.12.1998	22.12.1998	0	03
44.	King Hussein of Jordan	7.2.1999			
45.	Prof. G.G. Swell (Former Deputy Speaker and Member, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh Lok Sabhas)	25.1.1999			
46.	Shri Shivenra Bahadur Singh (Member, Seventh, Eighth and Tenth Lok Sabhas)	31.12.1998	22.2.1999	0	09
47.	Shri K.T. Achutan (Member, First Lok Sabha)	8.1.1999			
48.	Shri R.G. Tiwari (Member, Fifth and Seventh Lok Sabhas)	12.2.1999			
49.	Shri Mohan Lal Pipil (Member, Sixth Lok Sabha)	13.9.1998	25.2.1999	0	04
50.	Shri Narayan Reddy (Member, Third Lok Sabha)	16.12.1998			

*House was adjourned for the day without transacting any business.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
51.	Shri A.M. Chellachami (Member, Fifth Lok Sabha)	2.12.1997	4.3.1999	0	04
52.	Shri Ram Naresh Singh (Member, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabhas)	26.12.1998			
53.	Indian Air Force AN-31 Transport Aircraft crashed in South-West Delhi	7.3.1999	8.3.1999	0	02
54.	Shri George Joseph Mundackal (Member, Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabhas)	2.3.1999	9.3.1999	0	03
55.	Shri Damodar Pandey (Member, Fifth and Eighth Lok Sabhas)	26.1.1999	15.3.1999	0	04
56.	Major fire at the Jhuggi clusters near Vijay Ghat in Yamuna Pushta in North Delhi	14.3.1999			
57.	Major earthquake in Garhwal region and several parts of North India	29.3.1999	15.4.1999	0	02
58.	Shri A.K.A. Abdul Samad (Member, Seventh and Ninth Lok Sabhas)	11.4.1999	21.4.1999	0	02

4

QUESTIONS

Generally, the first hour of a sitting of Lok Sabha is devoted to questions and that hour is called the Question Hour. Asking questions is an inherent and unfettered parliamentary right of private members. During the Question Hour, members may ask questions on any aspect of administration and governmental activity.

The Question Hour has a special significance in the proceedings of Parliament. Although a question mainly seeks information and tries to elicit facts on a particular subject, many a time there are lively and quick exchanges of words between the members asking the questions and Ministers answering them. These exchanges are sometimes coupled with flashes of wit and humour. That is why the Public and the Press galleries are packed to capacity during the Question Hour.

Types of Questions

Parliamentary questions are classified into three categories, namely, Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions.

A Starred Question is one to which a member desires an oral answer in the House. It is distinguished by an asterisk mark when printed.

An Unstarred Question is one which is not called for oral answer in the House and on it no supplementary questions can be asked. A written answer to such a question is not formally laid by the Ministers, but is deemed to have been laid on the Table of the House at the end of the Question Hour. It is printed in the Official Report of the sitting of the House for which it is put down.

A Short Notice Question is one which is related to a matter of urgent public importance and can be asked with shorter notice than the period of notice prescribed for an ordinary question.

A question is primarily asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public importance. Questions that contain arguments, inferences or defamatory statements or otherwise refer to the character or conduct of any person, except in his official or public capacity, are not admitted. Questions which are in substance the repetitions of those that have been answered previously or in regard to which information is available in accessible documents or in reference works, are also not admitted. Besides, if the subject matter of a question is pending for judgement before any court of law, or any other tribunal or body set up under the law, or is under consideration before a parliamentary committee, the same is not permitted to be asked. Questions making discourteous references to foreign countries with whom India has friendly relations are disallowed. Similarly, questions raising larger issues of policy are not allowed for it is not possible to enunciate policies within the compass of an answer to a question.

Allotment of Days for Questions

Immediately on fixation of the dates of sittings of a session of Lok Sabha, days are allotted for the answering of questions relating to various Ministries of Government of India. For this purpose, the Ministries are divided into five groups and fixed days are allotted to groups of Ministries during a week.

Questions which have been admitted are separated from those which have been disallowed. Thereafter separate lists are prepared for Starred and Unstarred Questions. Admitted questions are entered in the Lists of Questions for the day for oral or written answers, as the case may be, in the order of priority obtained in the ballot.

The classification of Ministries into groups for the purpose of answering questions is done in such a way that each group of Ministries has, as far as practicable, approximately the same number of questions. It is also ensured that allotment of Ministries does not clash with the allotment decided for answering questions in Rajya Sabha so that the Ministers are able to be present in both Houses on their respective days allotted for answering questions.

Not more than five questions are admitted in the name of a member for each sitting of which not more than one is put down for oral answer. Normally, not more than twenty questions are placed on the list of Questions for oral answer on any one day; also not more than one Short Notice Question is put down for answer on any one day. Not more than 230 Questions are normally included in the list of Questions for written answer. While compiling the list of Unstarred Questions, care is taken to see that one question of each member is included in the list of questions of the date. The remaining Unstarred Questions are thereafter put in the list according to *inter-se* priority obtained through the ballot.

After the Starred Questions have been answered, Short Notice Question, if any for that day, is taken up and disposed of in the same way as the questions for oral answers.

Questions during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

A total of 72,934 notices of questions were received from members during the Twelfth Lok Sabha as against 96,863 during the Eleventh Lok Sabha, and 3,30,325, 75,228, 2,50,098, 2,69,221, 1,37,045, 2,52,700, 2,64,742, 1,62,334, 1,43,651 and 92,134 during the Tenth, Ninth, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Fourth, Third, Second and the First Lok Sabhas respectively. Out of the notices received, 15,579 questions, representing 21.36 per cent of the total were admitted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. The corresponding figures for the Eleventh, Tenth, Ninth, Eighth, Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Fourth, Third, Second and the First Lok Sabhas respectively were 23,681 or 24.44 per cent, 90,695 or 27.45 per cent, 21,550 or 28.64 per cent, 98,390 or 39.34 per cent, 1,02,959 or 38.24 per cent, 93,538 or 35.30 per cent, 58,355 or 36.00 per cent, 63,607 or 44.27 per cent and 42,725 or 46.37 per cent of the total notices received.

Of the total number of questions admitted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 14,217 or 91.25 per cent were Unstarred, 1360 or 8.73 per cent were Starred and only 2 or 0.01 per cent were Short Notice Questions. Of the 1360 Starred Questions, only 195 could be orally answered. Replies were laid on the Table of the remaining 1165 Starred Questions.

The top five Ministries to whom the largest number of questions were addressed were those of Finance: 1311, Railways: 985, Agriculture: 871, Home Affairs: 803 and Human Resource Development: 750. The minimum and the maximum number of questions orally answered on any particular day were 7 and 2 respectively. The maximum number of questions admitted in the name of a member (Shri. T. Subbarami Reddy) was 335.

Statements 23–28 show the disposal of questions received Session-wise, disposal of notices of questions received Session-wise, questions asked on subjects under various Ministries, the maximum and the minimum number of questions orally answered on a single day, number of questions notices of which were received in Hindi and the number of questions asked by the individual members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 23

Session-wise Disposal of Starred, Unstarred and Short Notice Questions

Year & Session	Starred Questions			Unstarred Questions Admitted & Answered	Short Notice Questions Admitted & Answered	Total
	Orally Answered	Replies Laid on the Table	Total Admitted (2+3)			
1998						
First	There was no Question Hour					
Second	97	523	620	6223	—	6843
Third	49	311	360	4092	2	4454
1999						
Fourth	49	331	380	3902	--	4282
Total	195	1165	1360	14217	2	15579

STATEMENT 24

Disposal of Notices of Questions Received from Members During the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Year & Session	Starred Questions			Unstarred Questions		Short Notice Questions				Total Questions Admitted (%)
	Notices Received	Admitted as SQ (%)	Admitted as USQ (%)	Notices Received	Admitted as USQ (%)	Notice Received	Admitted as SNQ (%)	Admitted as SQ (%)	Admitted as USQ (%	
1998										
First	There was no Question Hour									
Second	19311	620 (3.21)	4939 (25.57)	3763	1283 (34.09)	34	—	—	1 (2.94)	6843 (35.43)
Third	15353	360 (1.93)	3258 (21.22)	3220	834 (25.90)	13	2 (15.38)	—	—	4454 (29.01)
1999										
Fourth	25767	380 (1.47)	2975 (11.54)	5461	927 (16.97)	12	—	—	—	4282 (16.61)
Total	60431	1360	11172	12444	3044	59	2	—	1	15579

STATEMENT 25

Ministry-wise Disposal of Questions During the Twelfth Lok Sabha

S.No.	Name of the Ministry	No. of Questions Admitted			Total
		SQ	USQ	SNQ	3+4+5
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Agriculture	110	760	1	871
2.	Atomic Energy	8	62	-	70
3.	Chemicals & Fertilizers	13	209	-	222
4.	Civil Aviation	65	519	-	584
5.	Commerce	41	540	-	581
6.	Coal	25	267	-	292
7.	Communications	37	612	-	649
8.	Defence	37	408	1	446
9.	Electronics	4	48	-	52
10.	Environment & Forests	56	347	-	403
11.	External Affairs	59	517	-	576
12.	Finance	126	1185	-	1311
13.	Food & Consumer Affairs	30	318	-	348
14.	Food Processing Industries	14	128	-	142
15.	Health & Family Welfare	77	561	-	638
16.	Home Affairs	60	743	-	803
17.	Human Resource Development	67	683	-	750
18.	Industry	52	399	-	451
19.	Information & Broadcasting	38	443	-	481
20.	Labour	28	306	-	334
21.	Law, Justice and Company Affairs	17	179	-	196
22.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	10	71	-	81

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Ocean Development	2	14	-	16
24.	Personal, Public Grievances & Pensions	4	154	-	158
25.	Petroleum & Natural Gas	25	414	-	439
26.	Planning & Programme Implementation	26	280	-	306
27.	Prime Minister	--	--	-	--
28.	Parliamentary Affairs	--	8	-	8
29.	Power	34	432	-	466
30.	Railways	63	922	-	985
31.	Rural Areas & Employment	34	228	-	262
32.	Science & Technology	10	113	-	123
33.	Social Justice & Empowerment	25	327	-	352
34.	Space	6	25	-	31
35.	Steel & Mines	19	293	-	312
36.	Textiles	26	333	-	359
37.	Tourism	14	224	-	238
38.	Surface Transport	26	418	-	444
39.	Urban Affairs & Employment	27	331	-	358
40.	Water Resources	45	363	-	408
	Total	1360	14217	2	15579

STATEMENT 26

Maximum and Minimum Number of Questions Orally Answered on a Single Day during Various Sessions of the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Year and Sessions	No. of Maximum Questions	Date (s)	No. of Minimum Questions	Date (s)
1998				
First		There was no Questions Hour		
Second	4	29 May 1998 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10 & 12 June 1998 7, 9, 16, 21, 24 & 29 July 1998	2	3 June 1998
Third	7	10 December 1998	3	2, 3, 16 & 21 December 1998
1999				
Fourth	4	26 February 1999 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 18 March 1999	2	25 February 1999

STATEMENT 27

Total Number of Notices of Questions Received in Hindi during Twelfth Lok Sabha

Year and Sessions	No. of Notices Received in Hindi
1998	
First	There was no Question Hour
Second	6430
Third	5220

STATEMENT 28

Questions Admitted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha
(Member-wise Details)

S. No.	Name of the Member	Questions admitted			Total 3+4+5
		Starred	Unstarred	Short Notice	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Abdullah, Shri Omar	—	15	—	15
2.	Acharia, Sri Basu Deb	7	86	—	93
3.	Adityanath, Shri	4	63	—	67
4.	Agarwal, Shri Dhirendra	—	04	—	04
5.	Agnihotri, Shri Rajendra	10	68	—	78
6.	Ahmad, Shri Moinul Hassan	3	57	—	60
7.	Ahmad, Shri E.	5	27	—	32
8.	Ahire, Shri D.S.	28	211	—	239
9.	Ahmad, Dr. Shakeel	18	27	—	45
10.	Ahmad, Shri Akbar	—	01	—	01
11.	Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.	01	32	—	33
12.	Ajmeera, Shri Chandu Lal	6	46	—	52
13.	Ambedkar, Shri Prakash Yashwant	1	30	—	31
14.	Anwar, Shri Tariq	3	100	—	103
15.	Apang, Shri Omak	—	01	—	01
16.	Argal, Shri Ashok	—	27	—	27
17.	Armugham, Shri S.	—	06	—	06
18.	Athawale, Shri Ramdas	04	78	—	82
19.	Awade, Shri Kallappa	2	11	—	13
20.	Ayanur, Shri Manjunath	—	06	—	06
21.	Baalu, Shri T.R.	06	51	—	57

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	'Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat	1	61	—	62
23.	Baghel, Prof. S.P. Singh	1	—	—	01
24.	Bainda, Shri Ramchandra	18	06	—	24
25.	Bairwa, Shri Dowarka Parshad	—	11	—	11
26.	Bala, Dr. Asim	14	59	—	73
27.	Banatwalla, Shri G.M.	51	65	—	116
28.	Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip	—	02	—	02
29.	Banerjee, Kumari Mamata	03	15	—	18
30.	Basu, Shri Anil	01	10	—	11
31.	Baxla, Shri Joachim	—	05	—	05
32.	Behera, Shri Padma Nava	—	04	—	04
33.	Bhagat, Shri Indra Nath	—	05	—	05
34.	Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan	—	20	—	20
35.	Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal	07	42	—	49
36.	Bhargava, Shri Ram Shankar	—	01	—	01
37.	Bhonsle, Shri Abhaysinh S.	08	112	—	120
38.	Bhonsle, Shrimati Rani Chitralekha	03	25	—	28
39.	Bhuria, Shri Kantilal	05	45	—	50
40.	`Bijoy', Shri Bijoy Kumar	04	33	—	37
41.	Bisen, Shri Gauri Shanker Chaturbhuj	—	31	—	31
42.	Biswal, Shri Ranjib	20	199	—	219
43.	Bose, Shrimati Krishna	02	13	—	15
44.	Budania, Shri Narendra	12	42	—	54
45.	Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur	—	05	—	05
46.	Chkraborty, Shri Ajay	04	71	—	75

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
47.	Chandel, Shri Suresh	38	74	—	112
48.	Chandumajra, Prof. Prem Singh	58	92	—	150
49.	Chaplot, Shri Shanti Lal	04	17	—	21
50.	Chaudhari, Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai	08	67	—	75
51.	Chaudhari, Shrimati Nisha A.	—	04	—	04
52.	Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai	06	45	—	51
53.	Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal	15	112	—	127
54.	Chauhan, Shri Chetan	08	44	—	52
55.	Chauhan, Shri Jaysinghji	12	112	—	124
56.	Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D.	09	54	—	63
57.	Chengara Surendran, Shri	04	32	—	36
58.	Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavna Devrajbhai	05	50	—	55
59.	Chinta Mohan, Shri	26	104	—	130
60.	Choudhary, Col. Sona Ram	12	105	—	117
61.	Choudhary, Shri Krishna Kumar	—	14	—	14
62.	Choudhary, Shri Shakuni	01	18	—	19
63.	Choudhary, Shrimati Reena	03	09	—	12
64.	Choudhary, Shri Pankaj	22	116	—	138
65.	Choudhary, Shri Samar	02	51	—	53
66.	Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh	02	46	—	48
67.	Chowdhury, Shri Bikash	05	38	—	43
68.	Dahal, Shri Bhim	—	73	—	73
69.	Damor, Shri Somjibhai	—	31	—	31
70.	Das, Shri Nepal Chandra	—	17	—	17
71.	Datt, Shri Vaidya Vishnu	01	35	—	36

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
72.	Dave, Shrimati Bhavna Kardam	—	11	—	11
73.	Dennis, Shri N.	05	39	—	44
74.	Deo Keshari, Shri Bikram	04	35	—	39
75.	Devi, Shrimati Omvati	—	03	—	03
76.	Devi, Shrimati Rama	01	21	—	22
77.	Diler, Shri Kishan Lal	—	01	—	01
78.	Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra	02	12	—	14
79.	Drona, Shri Jagat Vir Singh	06	104	—	110
80.	Dwivedi, Shri Ramesh Chandra	—	01	—	01
81.	Eden, Shri George	02	31	—	33
82.	Fatmi, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf	14	67	—	81
83.	Foley, General Neville	—	02	—	02
84.	Gadhavi, Shri P.S.	08	103	—	111
85.	Gamang, Shri Giridhar	01	76	—	77
86.	Gamit, Shri C.D.	07	77	—	84
87.	Geneshamurthi, Shri A.	05	46	—	51
88.	Gangadhar, Shri S.	—	04	—	04
89.	Gangte, Kumari Kim	—	16	—	16
90.	Gautam, Shrimati Sheela	10	91	—	101
91.	Gavai, Shri R.S.	09	106	—	115
92.	Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya	12	165	—	177
93.	Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram	08	24	—	32
94.	Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand	10	48	—	58
95.	Ghatowar, Shri P.S.	—	06	—	06
96.	Giri, Shri Sudhir	—	35	—	35

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
97.	Giriyappa, Shri C.P.M.	06	60	—	66
98.	Goel, Shri Vijay	10	68	—	78
99.	Gogoi, Shri Tarun	—	06	—	06
100.	Gopal, Shri C.	01	01	—	02
101.	Goswami, Shri Nripen	11	160	—	171
102.	Govindan, Shri T.	13	203	—	216
103.	Gupta, Shri Chaman Lal	10	145	—	155
104.	Hamid, Shri Abdul	—	09	—	09
105.	Handique, Shri Bijoy Krishna	06	28	—	34
106.	Hegde, Shri Anant Kumar	10	83	—	93
107.	Hooda, Shri Bhupinder Singh	—	06	—	06
108.	Indora, Dr. Sushil	13	62	—	75
109.	Jain, Shri Satya Pal	04	75	—	79
110.	Jaiswal, Dr. Madan Prasad	20	79	—	99
111.	Jaiswal, Shri Shankar Prasad	02	46	—	48
112.	Javiya, Shri Gordhanbhai Jadavbhai	10	91	—	101
113.	Jogi, Shri Ajit	12	122	—	134
114.	Jos, Shri A.C.	12	175	—	187
115.	Kainth, Shri Satnam Singh	07	66	—	73
116.	Kalita, Shri Bhubaneswar	03	04	—	07
117.	Kamal Nath, Shri	06	42	—	48
118.	Kamal Rani, Shrimati	02	84	—	86
119.	Kamat, Shri Gurudas	04	69	—	73
120.	Kamble, Shri Arvind	07	59	—	66
121.	Kanodia, Shri Mahesh Kumar	17	90	—	107

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
122.	Karunakaran, Shri K.	01	12	—	13
123.	Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram	01	10	—	11
124.	Katheria, Shri Prabhu Dayal	04	47	—	51
125.	Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai	08	36	—	44
126.	Kawade, Shri Jogendra	04	89	—	93
127.	Khan, Shri Arif Mohammad	02	26	—	28
128.	Khan, Shri Rizwan Zaheer	06	12	—	18
129.	Khan, Shri Sunil	03	65	—	68
130.	Khandelwal, Shri V.K.	05	21	—	26
131.	Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali	—	02	—	02
132.	Khanduri, Major General Bhuvan Chandra	02	18	—	20
133.	Koli, Shri Ganga Ram	01	05	—	06
134.	Kondaiah, Shri K.C.	09	99	—	108
135.	Krishnadas, Shri N.N.	—	22	—	22
136.	Krishnamoorthy, Shri K.	—	31	—	31
137.	Kuleste, Shri Faggan Singh	01	29	—	30
138.	Kumar, Shri Shailendra	03	31	—	34
139.	Kumar, Shrimati Meira	—	09	—	09
140.	Kuppusami, Shri C.	07	19	—	26
141.	Kurien, Prof. P.J.	19	103	—	122
142.	Kurup, Shri Suresh	02	24	—	26
143.	Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna	10	59	—	69
144.	Kyndiah, Shri P.R.	01	53	—	54
145.	Lahiri, Shri Samik	12	—	—	12
146.	Maganti, Shri Babu	03	18	—	21

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
147.	M. Master Mathan, Shri	—	06	—	06
148.	Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra	—	01	—	01
149.	Mahant Charan Das, Dr.	01	13	—	14
150.	Mahato, Shri Bir Singh	—	34	—	34
151.	Mahtab, Shri Bhartrahari	06	87	—	93
152.	Mahto, Shri Raj Banshi	01	23	—	24
153.	Mahto, Shrimati Abha	—	04	—	04
154.	Mallick, Shri Rama Chandra	02	53	—	55
155.	Mallikarjuniah, Shri S.	01	20	—	21
156.	Mallu, Dr. Ravi	06	64	—	70
157.	Malviya, Shri Mahendrajeet Singh	—	07	—	07
158.	Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar	02	18	—	20
159.	Mandlik, Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba	16	113	—	129
160.	Marandi, Shri Som	01	15	—	16
161.	Maurya, Shri Anand Ratna	80	60	—	140
162.	Meena, Shri Bheru Lal	06	30	—	36
163.	Meena, Shri Ram Narain	02	38	—	40
164.	Meghe, Shri Datta	07	90	—	97
165.	Mehta, Prof. Ajit Kumar	14	106	—	120
166.	Mensinkai, Shri B.M.	—	40	—	40
167.	Mishra, Shri Indrajeet	01	17	—	18
168.	Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina	—	04	—	04
169.	Misra, Shri Janardan Prasad	14	76	—	90
170.	Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal	02	58	—	60
171.	Mohan, Shri K.P.	06	50	—	56

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
172.	Mohol, Shri Ashok Namdeorao	29	192	—	221
173.	Mollah, Shri Hannan	01	26	—	27
174.	Mukherjee, Shri Pramothes	01	13	—	14
175.	Mukherjee, Shri Subrata	—	17	—	17
176.	Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta	12	83	—	95
177.	Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy	05	103	—	108
178.	Munda, Shri Kariya	—	09	—	09
179.	Muni Lall, Shri	—	02	—	02
180.	Muniyappa, Shri K.H.	05	69	—	74
181.	Munusamy, Shri K.P.	04	15	—	19
182.	Murmu, Shri Rupchand	—	20	—	20
183.	Murmu, Shri Salkhan	—	03	—	03
184.	Muttemwar, Shri Vilas	50	122	—	172
185.	Nagra, Shri Aman Kumar	06	60	—	66
186.	Naidu, Shri Girajala Venkat Swamy	—	12	—	12
187.	Naidu, Shri K.P.	04	77	—	81
188.	Naik, Shri A. Venkatesh	21	146	—	167
189.	Naik, Shri Ram	—	02	—	02
190.	Naik, Shri Ravi Sitaram	09	122	—	131
191.	Narah, Shrimati Ranee	03	51	—	54
192.	Nayak, Shri Upendra Nath	02	13	—	15
193.	Nishad, Capt. Jai Narayan Prasad	—	04	—	04
194.	Oram, Shri Jual	02	29	—	31
195.	Osmani, Shri A.F. Golam	09	67	—	76
196.	Owaisi, Shri S.S.	21	188	—	209

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
197.	Panabaka, Shrimati Lakshmi	14	89	—	103
198.	Pandey, Dr. Laxminarayan	11	96	—	107
199.	Pandey, Shri Ravinder Kumar	20	144	—	164
200.	Pannu, Er. Shankar	—	17	—	17
201.	Paranjpe, Shri Dada Baburao	05	116	—	121
202.	Passi, Shri Raj Narain	—	29	—	29
203.	Paswan, Shri Pitamber	03	—	—	03
204.	Patel, Dr. Ashok	09	61	—	70
205.	Patel, Shri Chandresh	02	54	—	56
206.	Patel, Shri Dinsha	09	49	—	58
207.	Patel, Shri Jang Bahadur Singh	16	145	—	161
208.	Patel, Shri Shantilal Purshottamdas	08	66	—	74
209.	Pathak, Shri Anand	—	02	—	02
210.	Pathak, Shri Harin	04	51	—	55
211.	Patidar, Shri Rameshwar	11	109	—	120
212.	Patil, Dr. Ulhas Vasudeo	17	134	—	151
213.	Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.	10	68	—	78
214.	Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe	13	79	—	92
215.	Patil, Shri Bhaskar Rao	09	—	—	09
216.	Patil, Shri Jaisingrao Gaikwad	—	04	—	04
217.	Patil, Shri Madan	09	59	—	68
218.	Patil, Shri Madhav Rao	28	157	—	185
219.	Patil, Shri Ramkrishna Baba	09	140	—	149
220.	Patil, Shrimati Suryakanta	10	119	—	129
221.	Patnaik, Shrimati Jayanti	19	134	—	153

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
222.	Pawar, Shri Uttamsingh	01	02	—	03
223.	Pradhan, Shri Ashok	03	60	—	63
224.	Prasad, Shri Hari Kewal	11	112	—	123
225.	Premajam, Prof. A.K.	01	—	—	01
226.	Premchandran, Shri N.K.	16	74	—	90
227.	Puglia, Shri Naresh Kumar Chunnalal	28	148	—	176
228.	Radhakrishnan, Shri C.P.	—	35	—	35
229.	Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala	—	14	—	14
230.	Raghavan, Shri V.V.	13	69	—	82
231.	Rajaiah, Shri M.	01	58	—	59
232.	Rajbanshi, Shri Madhab	—	03	—	03
233.	Rajput, Shri Ganga Charan	—	05	—	05
234.	Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh	01	12	—	13
235.	Ram, Shri Braj Mohan	02	36	—	38
236.	Ramachandran, Shri Gingee N.	04	29	—	33
237.	Ramchandran, Shri Mullappally	11	202	—	213
238.	Ramaiah, Shri Sode	01	14	—	15
239.	Ramamurthy, Shri Vazhapady K.	—	03	—	03
240.	Ramarajan, Shri	—	18	—	18
241.	Ramshakal, Shri	03	59	—	62
242.	Rana, Shri Raju	—	01	—	01
243.	Rao, Ch. Vidyasagar	—	03	—	03
244.	Rao, Shri Inderjit Singh	01	17	—	18
245.	Rao, Shri K.S.	13	162	—	175
246.	Rao, Shri Nadendla Bhaskara	10	70	—	80

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
247.	Rao, Shri R. Sambasiva	20	155	—	175
248.	Rathwa, Shri N.J.	—	21	—	21
249.	Rawale, Shri Mohan	15	147	—	162
250.	Rawat, Shri Baijnath	—	14	—	14
251.	Rawat, Shri Bhagwan Shankar	11	77	—	88
252.	Reddy, Shri Venkatarami Anantha	—	08	—	08
253.	Reddy, Dr. B.N.	—	01	—	01
254.	Reddy, Dr. T. Subbarami	48	287	—	335
255.	Reddy, Dr. Y.S.Raja Sekara	04	31	—	35
256.	Reddy, Shri Bhuma Nagi	—	02	—	02
257.	Reddy, Shri Chada Suresh	07	60	—	67
258.	Reddy, Shri M. Baga	06	31	—	37
259.	Reddy, Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu	01	16	—	17
260.	Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana	—	05	—	05
261.	Reddy, Shri N.R.K.	01	04	—	05
262.	Reddy, Shri S. Sudhakar	03	24	—	27
263.	Rishidev, Shri Ramjidas	—	01	—	01
264.	Riyan, Shri Baju Ban	01	11	—	12
265.	Rongpi, Dr. Jayanta	03	64	—	67
266.	Rosaiah, Shri Konijeti	—	01	—	01
267.	Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar	04	92	—	96
268.	Roy, Shri Devendra Bahadur	—	16	—	16
269.	Roy, Shri Hira Lal	01	18	—	19
270.	Sahu, Shri Chandrashekhar	06	77	—	83
271.	Sahu, Shri Tarachand	—	01	—	01

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
272.	Sai, Shri Larang	—	08	—	08
273.	Samantaray, Shri Prabhat Kumar	—	13	—	13
274.	Sanghani, Shri Dileep	08	45	—	53
275.	Sangtam, Shri K.A.	01	15	—	16
276.	Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh	—	18	—	18
277.	Sankaran, Shri P.	01	63	—	64
278.	Sankeshwar, Shri Vijay	—	17	—	17
279.	Sar, Shri Nikhilananda	—	03	—	03
280.	Sardinha, Shri Franscisco	09	91	—	100
281.	Sarkar, Dr. Bikram	—	02	—	02
282.	Sarnaik, Shri Ajay Kumar S.	06	94	—	100
283.	Saroj, Shri Daroga Prasad	07	47	—	54
284.	Saroja V., Dr.	11	83	—	94
285.	Sathiamoorthy, Shri V.	—	01	—	01
286.	Satpathy, Shri Tathagata	13	135	—	148
287.	Sayeed, Shri Mufti Mohammad	01	35	—	36
288.	Sayeed, Shri P.M.	—	01	—	01
289.	Scindia, Shri Madhavrao	30	160	—	190
290.	Sedam, Shri Baswaraj Patil	02	34	—	36
291.	Sen, Shrimati Minati	—	17	—	17
292.	Seth, Shri Lakshman Chandra	03	32	—	352
293.	Sethi, Shri Arjun	09	82	—	91
294.	Shakya, Dr. Mahadeepak Singh	03	12	—	15
295.	Sharma, Shri Kishan Lal	12	94	—	106
296.	Shastri, Dr. Bizay Sonkar	11	131	—	142

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
297.	Shetty, Shri Jayarama, I.M.	08	47	—	55
298.	Shinde, Shri Sushil Kumar	26	223	—	249
299.	Shiv Shankar, Shri P.	02	06	—	08
300.	Siddaraju, Shri A.	05	58	—	63
301.	Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari	—	12	—	12
302.	Singh, Shri Amar Pal	12	68	—	80
303.	Singh, Shri Buta	01	02	—	03
304.	Singh, Shri Chhattra Pal	01	10	—	11
305.	Singh, Shri Devi Bux	—	08	—	08
306.	Singh, Shri H.P.	02	32	—	34
307.	Singh, Shri K. Natwar	01	02	—	03
308.	Singh, Shri Kirti Vardhan	—	22	—	22
309.	Singh, Shri Lakshman	02	35	—	37
310.	Singh, Shri Mohan	12	85	—	97
311.	Singh, Shri Nakli	—	02	—	02
312.	Singh, Shri Prabhunath	03	57	—	60
313.	Singh, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad	13	113	—	126
314.	Singh, Shri Raghvendra	—	08	—	98
315.	Singh, Shri Rajo	05	102	—	107
316.	Singh, Shri Rajveer	—	63	—	63
317.	Singh, Shri Rama Nand	05	81	—	86
318.	Singh, Shri Rampal	22	96	—	118
319.	Singh, Shri Sohanveer	04	19	—	23
320.	Singh, Shri Sushil Kumar	01	25	—	26
321.	Singh, Shri Tejveer	03	20	—	23
322.	Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba	02	21	—	23
323.	Singh, Shri Virendra	—	03	—	03
324.	Singh, Dr. Sanjay	04	33	—	37
325.	Sirpotdar, Shri Madhukar	10	33	—	43
326.	Soy, Shri Vijay Singh	03	13	—	16

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
327.	Soz, Prof. Saifuddin	05	21	—	26
328.	Sreenivasan, Shri C.	—	02	—	02
329.	Srinivas, Shri M.	—	01	—	01
330.	Suguna, Kumari Dr. Chellamalla	08	34	—	42
331.	Sudheeran, Shri V.M.	02	37	—	39
332.	Sultanpuri, Shri K.D.	05	43	—	48
333.	Swain, Shri Kharabela	01	39	—	40
334.	Swami, Shri Chinmayanand	10	43	—	53
335.	Swami, Dr. Subramanian	05	53	—	58
336.	Tandel, Shri Devji Bhai J.	—	04	—	04
337.	Tanpure, Shri Prasad Baburao	15	138	—	153
338.	Taslimuddin, Shri	—	04	—	04
339.	Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben Bharatkumar	—	04	—	04
340.	Thakur, Dr. C.P.	—	04	—	04
341.	Thakur, Dr. Prabha	04	42	—	46
342.	Thakur, Shri Ramseth	02	45	—	47
343.	Thomas, Shri P.C.	09	75	—	84
344.	Thorat, Shri Sandipan	13	115	—	128
345.	Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari	—	01	—	01
346.	Tiwari, Shri Prabhash Chandra	08	92	—	100
347.	Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand	—	10	—	10
348.	Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran	—	01	—	01
349.	Tripathi, Shri Chandramani	01	53	—	54
350.	Tripathi, Shri Braja Kishore	04	28	—	32
351.	Tupe, Shri Vithal	22	141	—	163
352.	Upadhyay, Shri Rampal	05	73	—	78
353.	Upendra, Shri P.	08	43	—	51
354.	Vaiko, Shri	10	70	—	80
355.	Varma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas	03	52	—	55
356.	Varma, Shri Sushil Chandra	03	120	—	123

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
357.	Vedanti, Dr. Ramvilas	05	29	—	34
358.	Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra	02	50	—	52
359.	Verma, Prof. Rita	06	62	—	68
360.	Verma, Shri Beni Prasad	03	14	—	17
361.	Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh	—	08	—	08
362.	Verma, Shri R.L.P.	02	35	—	37
363.	Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash	03	29	—	32
364.	Verma, Shri Virendra	02	10	—	12
365.	Verma, Shrimati Usha	—	12	—	12
366.	Virendra Kumar, Shri	01	05	—	06
367.	Vora, Shri Motilal	14	87	—	101
368.	Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar	—	07	—	07
369.	Warpudkar, Shri Suresh	10	117	—	127
370.	Wasnik, Shri Mukul	11	48	—	59
371.	Yadav, Shri Anup Lal	03	20	—	23
372.	Yadav, Shri Balram Singh	02	30	—	32
373.	Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad	14	117	—	131
374.	Yadav, Shri Mitrasen	43	19	—	62
375.	Yadav, Shri Parasnath	—	01	—	01
376.	Yadav, Shri Pradeep Kumar	04	72	—	76
377.	Yadav, Shri Sita Ram	01	19	—	20
378.	Yadav, Shri Surendra Prasad (Jahanabad)	08	71	—	79
379.	Yadav, Shri Surendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)	01	31	—	32
380.	Yerrannaidu, Shri K.	12	134	—	146
381.	Zahedi, Shri Mahboob	02	41	—	43

5

LEGISLATIVE AND FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Legislation

Under the Constitution, India is a Union of States. All legislative power is, therefore, divided between the Centre and the States. Briefly the scheme of distribution of legislative powers is that Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to matters enumerated in List I of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, called the Union List. The State legislatures have exclusive power to make laws with respect to matters enumerated in List II, *i.e.*, the State List. However, in certain contingencies *e.g.* when the Rajya Sabha passes a resolution under article 249 empowering the Parliament to make law on a State subject *or* legislatures of two or more States ask Parliament to do so by way of their resolutions *or* a State is under President's Rule and all powers of the State Legislature are vested in the Parliament, Parliament can make laws on subjects enumerated in the State List. List III, called the Concurrent List, comprises subjects about which both Parliament and the Legislatures of the States have concurrent power. Since residuary powers vest in Parliament, it can also make laws in areas not specifically enumerated in any of the three Lists included in the Seventh Schedule.

Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, Parliament is required to make laws as also amend the Constitution as and when such a need is felt. Law-making is still deemed to be the predominant function of Parliament even though it is not its only function today and it is expected to play a multifunctional role.

The legislative process starts with the introduction of a Bill in either House of Parliament. A Bill is a draft of a legislative proposal put in proper form which, when passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President, becomes an Act. A Bill can be introduced either by a Minister or by a Private Member. In the former case, it is known as a Government Bill and in the latter case it is known as a Private Member's Bill. Money Bills [*viz.*, Bills which contain only provisions for the imposition, abolition, alteration or regulation of taxes; Bills for appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund; and other matters mentioned in clause (1) of article 110 of the Constitution] can be introduced only in Lok Sabha.

When a Bill has been introduced, the member in-charge of the Bill may move that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. After opinions on a Bill have been received, they are examined and edited. After editing and consolidation, these opinions are printed as 'Papers to the Bill' and are laid on the Table by the member-in-charge of the Bill.

At times depending upon the nature and complexity of the Bills they are referred to Select Committees for examination and for making reports thereon at the second stage of reading. Bills may likewise be referred, with the concurrence of the Rajya Sabha, to Joint Committees which are composed of members of both the Houses. Such Select or Joint Committees are *ad hoc* Committees as are appointed for consideration of particular Bills referred to them. With the introduction of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee (DRSC) System with effect from 8 April 1993, Bills pertaining to the concerned Ministries/Departments are also referred to the respective Standing Committees by the Speaker, Lok Sabha or the Chairman, Rajya Sabha for examination and for making reports thereon.

The Bill as introduced or as reported on by the Select or Joint or Departmentally Related Standing Committee, as the case may be, is considered clause by clause. At this stage amendments are allowed. When the Bill has been considered clause by clause and all its schedules and other parts have been considered and voted, the member-in-charge can move that the Bill be passed. The discussion at this stage is that the Bill as it has emerged may be passed or rejected.

After a Bill is passed by one House, it is sent to the other House for concurrence. In regard to the Money Bills, the Lok Sabha has got the exclusive power to legislate and the Rajya Sabha can only recommend amendments therein. It must return such a Bill to the Lok Sabha within fourteen days from the date of its receipt. It is open to the Lok Sabha to accept or reject any or all of the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha with regard to a Money Bill. If the Lok Sabha accepts any of the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha, the Money Bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses with amendments recommended by the Rajya Sabha and accepted by the Lok Sabha. But, if the Lok Sabha does not accept any of the recommendations

of the Rajya Sabha, the Money Bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses in the form in which it was passed by the Lok Sabha without any of the amendments recommended by the Rajya Sabha. If a Money Bill passed by the Lok Sabha and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations is not returned to the Lok Sabha within the said period of fourteen days, it is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses at the expiration of the said period in the form in which it was passed by the Lok Sabha.

If a Bill, other than a Money Bill, passed by one House is rejected by the other House or the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the Bill or more than six months elapse from the date of receipt of the Bill by the other House without the Bill being passed by it, the President may call a joint sitting of the two Houses to resolve the deadlock. If, at the joint sitting of the Houses, the Bill is passed by a majority of the total number of members of both the Houses present and voting, with the amendments, if any, accepted by them, the Bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses.

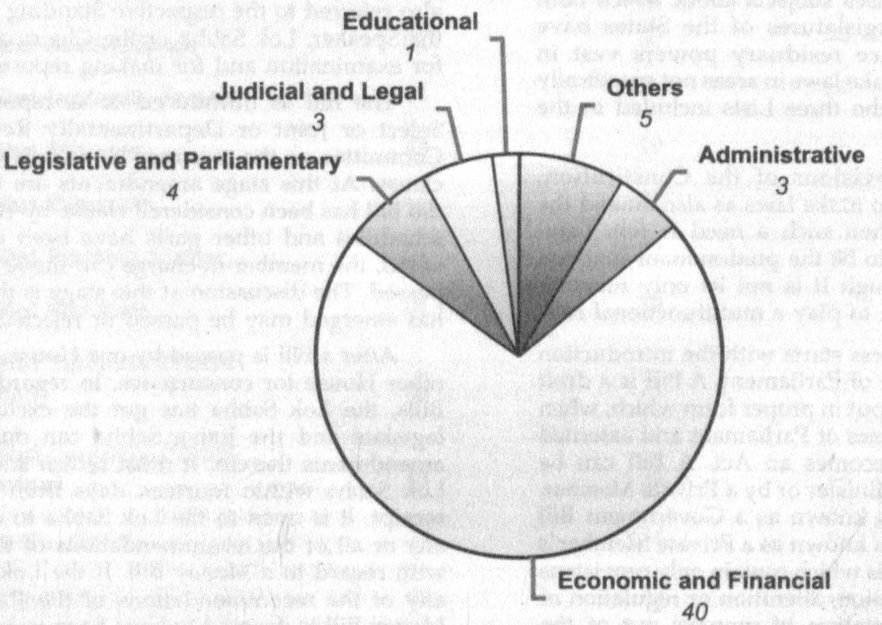
When a Bill is passed by both the Houses, it is sent for the President's assent. The Bill becomes an Act only after the President's assent has been given thereto.

The President can give his assent or withhold his assent to a Bill. The President can also return the Bill (except a Money Bill) with his recommendations to the Houses for reconsideration, and if the Houses pass the Bill again with or without amendments, the Bill has to be assented to by the President. However, in the case of a Bill to amend the Constitution, after it is passed by the Houses with the requisite special majority and, where necessary, ratified by the State Legislatures, the President has to accord his assent thereto.

Legislation by the Twelfth Lok Sabha

During the short tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 56 Bills were passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President. Of these, 40 related to economic and financial subjects, important among them being those pertaining to banking, industry, transport, labour and appropriation of moneys. So far as legislative and parliamentary matters are concerned, there were only four enactments followed by three each on judicial and legal, and administrative and one on educational matters. Notably, no legislative measure was brought for the amendment in the Constitution during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Earlier during the tenure of the Eleventh Lok Sabha too, no Bill amending the Constitution was passed. The following diagram shows

SUBJECT-WISE CLASSIFICATION OF BILLS PASSED AND ASSENTED TO DURING TWELFTH LOK SABHA



subject-wise break-up of bills passed and assented to during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

It may be incidentally mentioned that no Bill—whether Government or a Private Member's Bill—was circulated for eliciting public opinion during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Promulgation of Ordinances during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Article 123 of the Constitution provides that if at any time, except when both the Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such Ordinances as the circumstances appear to him to require. Such an Ordinance has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament. An Ordinance has, however, to be laid before both Houses of Parliament and shall cease to operate at the expiration of six weeks from the assembly of Parliament or, if before the expiration of that period resolutions approving it are passed by both Houses, upon the passing of the second of those resolutions. It can also be withdrawn at any time by the President.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha 22 Ordinances were promulgated by the President, of which 16 were transformed into Acts by necessary legislation. Six ordinances were such in respect of which the corresponding Bills could not be passed due to premature dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Thirteen Ordinances were also promulgated during the interlude between the dissolution of the Eleventh Lok Sabha and the constitution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Of these 11 Ordinances were such in respect of which Bills were introduced, passed and assented to. In the case of only two Ordinances, Bills could not be passed due to dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

Statement 29 indicates the volume of legislation passed year-wise during the years 1935 to 1999. Statements 30 to 33 show the Bills passed, subject-wise details/listings of Acts, Bills referred to Joint/Select/Standing Committees, Ordinances promulgated by the President during the Twelfth Lok Sabha as also during the intervening period between the dissolution of the Eleventh Lok Sabha and the constitution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Financial Business

In respect of every financial year, the President causes to be laid before both Houses of Parliament an annual financial statement or the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India. The annual financial statement, otherwise known as the 'Budget', is presented in two parts *viz.*, the Railway Budget pertaining to Railway Finance and the General Budget which gives an overall picture of the financial position of the Government of India, excluding the Railways.

While the Railway Budget is presented to the Lok Sabha by the Minister of Railway sometime in the third week of February every year, the General Budget is presented by the Minister of Finance generally on the last working day of February. The Budget is presented with a Budget Speech. This speech is in two parts: Part A contains 'a general economic survey' of the country and Part B 'the taxation proposals for the ensuing financial year'. A copy of the budget is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha at the conclusion of the speech of the Finance Minister in Lok Sabha. Soon thereafter, the Finance Minister introduces the Finance Bill which contains the taxation proposals.

As no money can be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under the relevant appropriations made by law, a Bill called 'Appropriation Bill' is also introduced to provide for the appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund of India of all moneys required to meet the grants made by the House and the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

A week or ten days after the presentation of the respective Budgets, they come up for general discussion. Thereafter the Demands for Grants of the Ministries/Departments are examined by the concerned Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) of Parliament. After the presentation of the Reports by all the DRSCs, the Demands for Grants of the individual Ministries/Departments are taken up for discussion and voting.

A certain number of days or hours are allotted for the discussion of all the demands. It often happens,

however, that not all the demands are discussed during or within the allotted number of days. On the last of the allotted day, therefore, all other demands remaining undiscussed by that time are put by the Speaker in the form of question necessary to dispose them of. This has come to be called 'the guillotine'. The guillotine is applied without any motion preceding it. The whole exercise relating to the Budget culminates in the passing of the Appropriation and the Finance Bills. Statement 34 shows the details about the Financial Business discussed during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 29

Volume of Legislation Passed

Year	Number of Bills passed and assented to	Year	Number of Bills passed and assented to
1935	14	1967	38
1936	24	1968	67
1937	29	1969	58
1938	26	1970	53
1939	42	1971	87
1940	42	1972	82
1941	27	1973	70
1942	26	1974	68
1943	30	1975	57
1944	18	1976	118
1945	11	1977	48
1946	38	1978	50
1947	58	1979	32
1948	62	1980	72
1949	77	1981	62
1950	80	1982	73
1951	72	1983	49
1952	82	1984	73
1953	58	1985	92
1954	54	1986	71
1955	60	1987	61
1956	106	1988	71
1957	68	1989	38
1958	59	1990	30
1959	63	1991	63
1960	67	1992	44
1961	63	1993	75
1962	68	1994	61
1963	58	1995	45
1964	56	1996	36
1965	51	1997	35
1966	57	1998	29
		1999	27

STATEMENT 30

Analytical Chart regarding Bills Passed by the Twelfth Lok Sabha

(A) Government Bills

Sl. No.		Sessions			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1.	No. of sittings during which Bills were considered	2	20	13	8
2.	No. of Bills introduced	7 Nil	28 (5)	19 (6)	17 Nil
3.	No. of Bills considered	7	23	15	17
4.	No. of Bills referred to Joint Committee	-	1	-	-
5.	No. of Bills referred to Select Committee	-	-	-	-
6.	No. of Bills referred to Standing Committee(s)	-	18@	5+	5
7.	No. of Bills Withdrawn	-	-	-	2
8.	No. of Bills negatived	-	-	-	-
9.	No. of Bills passed	7	22	14	17
10.	No. of Bills on which debate was adjourned	-	-	-	-
11.	No. of Bills on which discussion was not concluded	-	-	1	-
12.	No. of Bills pending at the end of the session	-	11	22	20*
13.	No. of amendments tabled	1	244	12	122
14.	No. of amendments moved	1	133	9	49
15.	No. of amendments withdrawn	-	-	-	-
16.	No. of amendments accepted	-	97	2	26
17.	No. of amendments negatived	1	36	7	23

@ Besides, one Bill was also referred to Standing Committee during the interregnum which followed the Second Session.

+ Besides, three Bills were also referred to Standing Committees during the interregnum which followed the Third Session.

* Houses adjourned *sine die* on 22.4.1999. All the pending Bills lapsed on dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999.

Note: Figures in parentheses against Sl. No. 2 show the number of Bills passed by the Rajya Sabha and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(B) Private Members' Bills

Sl. No.		Sessions			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1.	No. of sittings during which Private Members' Bills were considered	nil	3	2	nil
2.	No. of Bills introduced	nil	57	55	10
3.	No. of Bills considered	nil	2	2	nil
4.	No. of Bills referred to Select/Joint/Standing Committee	nil	nil	nil	nil
5.	No. of Bills withdrawn	nil	1	2	nil
6.	No. of Bills negatived	nil	nil	nil	nil
7.	No. of Bills removed from Register of pending Bills	nil	nil	nil	1
8.	No. of Bills circulated for opinion	nil	nil	nil	nil
9.	No. of Bills on which motion for circulation negatived	nil	nil	nil	nil
10.	No. of Bills originating in Lok Sabha returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments and amendments made by Rajya Sabha agreed to by Lok Sabha	nil	nil	nil	nil
11.	No. of Bills passed	nil	nil	nil	nil
12.	No. of Bills on which debate was adjourned	nil	nil	nil	nil
13.	No. of Bills on which discussion was not concluded	nil	1	1	1*
14.	No. of Bills pending at the end of the session	nil	56	109	118
15.	No. of amendments tabled	nil	nil	nil	nil
16.	No. of amendments moved	nil	nil	nil	nil
17.	No. of amendments withdrawn	nil	nil	nil	nil
18.	No. of amendments accepted	nil	nil	nil	nil
19.	No. of amendments negatived	nil	nil	nil	nil

*The Bill was part-discussed during the Third Session.

STATEMENT 31

Enactments by Parliament during the Twelfth Lok Sabha
(Acts indicated with (*) were treated as Money Bills)

Administration

1. The Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1998
2. The President's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Act, 1998
3. The Governors' Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges (Amendment) Act, 1998

Banking

1. The Export-Import Bank of India (Amendment) Act, 1998
2. The High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Amendment Act, 1998

Education and Research

The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998

Finance

1. The Finance Act, 1998*
2. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 1998*
3. The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 1998*
4. The Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Act, 1998*
5. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 1998*
6. The Appropriation Act, 1998 *
7. The Income-Tax (Amendment) Act, 1998 *
8. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 1998 *
9. The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 1998 *
10. The Finance (Amendment) Act, 1998 *
11. The Appropriation of Railways (No. 3) Act, 1998*
12. The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 1998 *
13. The Finance (No. 2) Act, 1998 *
14. The Customs (Amendment) Act, 1998 *
15. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Act, 1998*
16. The Appropriation (No. 4) Act, 1998 *
17. The Income-Tax (Second Amendment) Act, 1998*
18. The Finance (No.2) Amendment Act, 1999*
19. The Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 1999
20. The Goa Appropriation Act, 1999
21. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Act, 1999*
22. The Appropriation (Railways) Act, 1999*
23. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Act, 1999*
24. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Act, 1999*
25. The Appropriation Act, 1999*
26. The Appropriation (No. 2) Act, 1999*
27. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3, Act, 1999*
28. The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 1999*
29. The Finance Act, 1999*

Industry

1. The Interest on Delayed Payments to Small Scale and Ancillary Industrial Undertakings (Amendment) Act, 1998
2. The Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Repeal) Act, 1998
3. The Patents (Amendment) Act, 1999
4. The Companies (Amendment) Act, 1999

Judicial and Legal

1. The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1998*
2. The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Act, 1998
3. The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Services) Amendment Act, 1998*

Labour

1. The Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Act, 1998

2. The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Act, 1998
3. The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Act, 1998*

Legislative and Parliamentary

1. The Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1998*
2. The Salaries and Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1998
3. The Leaders and Chief Whips of Recognised Parties and Groups in Parliament (Facilities) Act, 1998
4. The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 1999

Transport

1. The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1998
2. The Railway Claims Tribunal (Amendment) Act, 1998

Others

1. The Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998
2. The Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998
3. The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Act, 1998*
4. The Delhi Development Authority (Validation of Disciplinary Powers) Act, 1998
5. The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Repeal Act, 1999

STATEMENT 32

Bills Referred to Joint/Select/Standing Committees during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl.No	Title of the Bill	Date of Introduction in Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha	Date of Reference to the Joint Committee	Date of Reference to the Select Committee	Date of Reference and name of the Standing Committee	Date of Present-ation of Report	Date of Conside-ration of Bill
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Government Bills				
1.	The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998@	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	8.6.1998 (Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution)	4.7.98	Withdrawn on
			9.7.1998	-	-	9.12.1998	5.3.1999
2.	The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1998	3.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	8.6.1998 (Labour)	21.7.1998	27.7.1998
3.	The Finance (Amendment) Bill, 1998	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	8.6.1998 (Finance)	4.7.1998	4.7.1998

@This Bill was referred to both the Standing Committee and the Joint Committee. After presentation of reports by these Committees, the Bill could not be considered by the House, as the Bill was withdrawn by the Government.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	The Lotteries (Regulation) Bill, 1998	27.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	9.6.1998 (Home Affairs)	4.7.1998	4.7.1998
5.	The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1998	28.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	9.6.1998 (Home Affairs)	4.7.1998	4.7.1998
6.	The Administrators General (Amendment) Bill, 1998	9.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	10.6.1998 (Home Affairs)	2.12.1998	-
7.	The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Repeal Bill, 1998	11.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	23.6.1998 (Urban and Rural Development)	21.12.1998	Withdrawn on 5.3.1999
8.	The Participation of Workers in Manage-Ment Bill, 1999	30.5.1990 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	23.6.1998 (Labour)	-	-
9.	The Delhi Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1997	28.7.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	23.6.1998 (Urban and Rural Development)	-	-
10.	The Delhi Develop-ment Authority (Validation of Disciplinary Powers) Bill, 1997	14.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	23.6.1998 (Urban and Rural Development)	2.12.1998	22.12.1998
11.	The Companies Bill, 1997	14.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	3.7.1998 (Home Affairs)	-	-
12.	The Securities Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1998	4.7.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	15.7.1998 (Finance)	18.3.1999	*

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	The Constitution (Eighty-fifth) Amendment Bill, 1998	14.7.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	15.7.1998 (Finance)	24.2.1999	*
14.	The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 1998	9.7.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	28.7.1998 (Finance)	2.12.1998	-
15.	The Foreigners (Amendment) Bill, 1998	28.7.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	30.7.1998 (Home Affairs)	-	-
16.	The Foreign Exchange Management Bill, 1998	4.8.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	5.8.1998 (Finance)	23.12.1998	*
17.	The Prevention of Money Laundering Bill, 1998	4.8.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	5.8.1998 (Finance)	4.3.1999	*
18.	The Merchant Shipping (Second Amendment) Bill, 1998	4.8.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	7.8.1998 (Transport and Tourism)	4.12.1998	-
19.	The Indian Majority` (Amendment) Bill, 1998	13.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	19.8.1997@ (Home Affairs)	2.12.1998	-
20.	The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998	13.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	2.9.1997@ (Home Affairs)	2.12.1998	-
21.	The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1997	14.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	19.8.1997@ (Home Affairs)	17.12.1998	-
22.	The Lokpal Bill, 1998	3.8.1997 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	8.12.1998 (Finance)	25.2.1999	*
23.	The Major Ports Trust (Amendment) Bill, 1998	2.12.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	4.12.1998 (Transport & Tourism)	4.3.1999	-
24.	The Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1998	7.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	11.12.1998 (Home Affairs)	25.2.1999	15.3.1999*

*Bill lapsed on dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	The Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998	15.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	4.1.1999 (Finance)	16.3.1999	*
26.	The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1998	23.12.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	4.1.1999 (Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution)	-	-
27.	The Notaries (Amendment) Bill, 1997	4.8.97 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	5.3.1997@ (Home Affairs)	25.2.1999	-
28.	The Immigration (Carriers Liability) Bill, 1998	23.12.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	30.12.1998 (Home Affairs)	11.3.1999	-
29.	The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998	22.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	5.3.1999 (Home Affairs)	-	*
30.	The Army and Air Force (Disposal of Private Property Amendment)Bill, 1999	25.2.1999 (Rajya Sabha)	-	-	8.3.1999 (Defence)	-	-
31.	The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 1999	5.3.1999 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	9.3.1999 (Finance)	-	*
32.	The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability Bill, 1999	8.3.1999 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	12.3.1999 (Labour and Welfare)	17.3.1999	*
33.	The Coal India (Regulation of Transfer and Validation) Bill, 1995	14.2.1995 (Lok Sabha)	-	-	16.4.1999 (Industry)	-	-

Private Members' Bills

Nil

*Bill lapsed on dissolution of Twelfth Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999.

@Referred to the Standing Committee on Home Affairs during the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 33

I. Ordinances Promulgated by the President during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl.No.	Title of the Ordinance	Date of Publication in the Gazette	Date of Introduction of Bill and the House in which introduced	Corresponding Act
1	2	3	4	5
1.	The Finance (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	21.4.1998	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	16 of 1998
2.	The Lotteries (Regulation) Ordinance, 1998	23.4.1998	27.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	17 of 1998
3.	The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	23.4.1998	1.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	9 of 1998
4.	The Employee's Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	23.4.1998	7.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	10 of 1998
5.	The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Second) Ordinance, 1998	23.4.1998	28.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	13 of 1998
6.	The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) of Ordinance, 1998	23.4.1998	24.7.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	11 of 1998
7.	The High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1998	24.4.1998	28.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	18 of 1998
8.	The Representation of the the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	24.4.1998	1.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	12 of 1998
9.	The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	25.4.1998	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
10.	The Electricity Regulatory Commission Ordinance,	25.4.1998	3.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	14 of 1998 1998
11.	The Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1998	25.8.1998	7.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*
12.	The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Ordinance, 1998	28.8.1998	1.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*
13.	The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Ordinance, 1998	3.9.1998	27.7.1998 (Lok Sabha)	29 of 1998
14.	The Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	27.10.1998	7.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*
15.	The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999	31.10.1998	22.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	21 of 1999
16.	The Finance (No.2) Amendment Ordinance 1998	31.12.1998	26.2.1999 (Lok Sabha)	12 of 1999
17.	The Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999	7.1.1999	22.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	21 of 1999
18.	The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Ordinance, 1999	7.1.1999	1.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*
19.	The Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999	8.1.1999	16.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	17 of 1999
20.	The Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1999	8.1.1999	7.12.1998 (Lok Sabha)	*
21.	The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Repeal Ordinance, 1999	11.1.1999	5.3.1999 (Lok Sabha)	15 of 1999
22.	The Salaries, Allowances and Pensions of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999	18.1.1999	5.3.1999 (Lok Sabha)	16 of 1999

*The corresponding Bill could not be passed due to dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999.

II. Ordinances Promulgated after the Dissolution of the Eleventh Lok Sabha and Corresponding Bills Passed by Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl.No.	Title of the Ordinance	Date of Publication in the Gazette	Date of Introduction of Bill and the House in which introduced	Corresponding Act
1	2	3	4	5
1.	The Representation of The People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997	23.12.1997	1.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	12 of 1998
2.	The Finance (Second (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997	24.12.1997	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	16 of 1998
3.	The Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous, Provisions (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997	25.12.1997	7.8.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	10 of 1998
4.	The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) of Ordinance, 1997	25.12.1997	24.7.1997 (Rajya Sabha)	11 of 1998
5.	The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997	25.12.1997	1.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	9 of 1998
6.	The Income-Tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997	26.12.1997	27.3.1998 (Lok Sabha)	7 of 1998
7.	The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Ordinance, 1997	26.12.1997	1.6.1998 (Lok Sabha)	@
8.	The Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997	26.12.1997	26.3.1998 (Lok Sabha)	4 of 1998
9.	The Lotteries (Regulation) Second Ordinance, 1998	30.12.1997	27.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	17 of 1998

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
10.	The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Ordinances, 1998	2.1.1998	29.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	@
11.	The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Ordinance, 1998	21.1.1998	28.5.1998 (Lok Sabha)	13 of 1998
12.	The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	22.1.1998	1.6.1998 (Rajya Sabha)	12 of 1998
13.	The Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998	24.1.1998	26.3.1998 (Lok Sabha)	4 of 1998

@ The corresponding Bill could not be passed due to dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999.

STATEMENT 34

I. Financial Business Discussed during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

	Subject	Date of Presentation	Date (s) of Discussion	Remarks
	1	2	3	4
A.	Interim Budget (General) for 1998-99	25.3.1998	26.3.1998	General Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants on Account (General)
	Budget (General) for 1998-99	1.6.1998	10.6.1998 11.6.1998 12.6.1998	General Discussion
	Budget (General) for 1999-2000	27.2.1999	15.3.1999 16.3.1999	General Discussion
	Demands for Grants on Account in respect of Budget (General) for 1999-2000	-	16.3.1999	Discussion and Voting

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
B. Interim Budget (Railways) for 1998-99	25.3.1998	26.3.1998	General Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants on Accounts (Railways)
Budget (Railways) for 1998-99	29.5.1998	4.6.1998 5.6.1998 8.6.1998 9.6.1998	General Discussion
Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1998-99	29.5.1998	7.7.1998	Discussion and Voting
Budget (Railways) for 1999-2000	25.2.1999	13.3.1999	General Discussion
Demands for Grants on Account in respect of Budget (Railways) 1999-2000	-	13.3.1999	Discussion and Voting
Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1999-2000	25.2.1999	22.4.1999	Discussion and Voting
C. Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for:			
1997-98	25.3.1998	26.3.1998	Discussion and Voting
1998-99	14.12.1998	21.12.1998	Discussion and Voting
	10.3.1998	15.3.1999 16.3.1999	Discussion and Voting
D. Demands for Excess Grants (General) for:			
1995-96	5.6.1998	5.6.1998 10.6.1998 11.6.1998 12.6.1998	Discussion and Voting
1996-97	15.3.1999	15.3.1999 16.3.1999	Discussion and Voting

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
E. Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for:			
1997-98	25.3.1998	26.3.1998	Discussion and Voting
1998-99	15.12.1998	18.12.1998	Discussion and Voting
	10.3.1999	13.3.1999	Discussion and Voting
F. Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for:			
1995-96	29.5.1998	4.6.1998	Discussion and Voting
		5.6.1998	
		8.6.1998	
		9.6.1999	
1996-97	10.3.1999	13.3.999	Discussion and Voting

II. Discussion and Voting on Demands for Grants (Pertaining to Union Budget)

A. Ministries /Departments in respect of which Demands for Grants were Discussed

Budget Year	Name of the Ministry/ Department	Dates of Discussion	Time Taken	
			Hrs.	Mts.
1998-99	Agriculture	10.7.1998 14.7.1998	1	27
1999-2000	Nil	—	—	

B. Ministries/Departments in respect of which Demands for Grants were Guillotined

Sl.No.	Name of the Ministry/ Department	Remarks
1	2	3
	1998-99	
1.	Chemicals and Fertilizers	Guillotined at 6.00 p.m on 14.7.1998
2.	Civil Aviation and Tourism	
3.	Food and Consumer Affairs	
4.	Coal	
5.	Commerce	
6.	Communications	
7.	Defence	
8.	Environment and Forests	
9.	External Affairs	
10.	Finance	
11.	Food Processing Industries	
12.	Health & Family Welfare	
13.	Home Affairs	
14.	Human Resource Development	
15.	Industry	
16.	Information and Broadcasting	
17.	Labour	
18.	Law and Justice	
19.	Mines	
20.	Non-Conventional Energy Sources	
21.	Parliamentary Affairs	
22.	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	
23.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	
24.	Planning and Programme Implementation	
25.	Power	
26.	Rural Areas and Employment	
27.	Science and Technology	
28.	Steel	

1	2	3
29.	Surface Transport	Guillotined at 6.00 p.m on 14.7.1998
30.	Textiles	
31.	Urban Affairs and Employment	
32.	Water Resources	
33.	Welfare	
34.	Atomic Energy	
35.	Electronics	
36.	Ocean Development	
37.	Space	
38.	Rajya Sabha	
39.	Lok Sabha	
40.	Secretariat of the Vice-President	

1999-2000

Consequent on the defeat of the Confidence Motion on the floor of the House on 17.3.1999, the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee resigned and the Demands for Grants in respect of all the Ministries/Departments were guillotined at 11.25 a.m on 22.4.1999 and voted without discussion.

III. Budget in respect of States/Union Territories under President's Rule

Subject	Date of Presentation	Date of Discussion	Remarks
Budget (Goa) for 1999-2000	4.3.1999	10.3.1999	Discussion and Voting
Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Goa) for 1998-99	4.3.1999	10.3.1999	Discussion and Voting

6

RAISING MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Under the rules of procedure made by the House a number of procedural devices have been made available to the members with a view to enabling them to raise issues, elicit information and obtain decisions of the Government on a variety of matters affecting the public. These devices afford ample opportunities to the members not only to review the working of the administration but also to constructively criticise the policies, programmes and actions of the Government. These are very useful to the members in ventilating popular grievances. Apart from Questions, several additional procedural devices are available to the members for raising urgent matters of public importance requiring immediate attention of the Government. These include discussion on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, Adjournment Motion, No-confidence Motion, Calling Attention Notices, Short Duration Discussions, Motions, Half-an-Hour Discussions, Resolutions, etc. In addition, matters which cannot be raised under these procedural devices can be raised under rule 377 of the rules of procedure of the House.

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address

Article 87 (1) of the Indian Constitute provides for President's Address to members of both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session each year.

In the case of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha, the President addresses both Houses of Parliament after the members have made and subscribed the oath or affirmation and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha has been elected. In the case of the first session of each year, the President addresses both Houses of Parliament assembled together at a time and date notified for the commencement of the session of the two Houses. As per established practice, no other business is transacted in the House till half-an-hour after the conclusion of the President's Address. Thereafter both the Houses meet separately in their respective Chambers when a copy of the President's Address is laid on the Tables of both the Houses.

Discussion on matters referred to in the President's Address takes place on a Motion of Thanks moved by a member and seconded by another member. According to the established practice, the mover and the seconder of the Motion of Thanks are selected by the Prime Minister. On the days allotted for the discussion, the House is at liberty to discuss matters referred to in the Address. The scope of discussion is very wide and the members are free to speak on any national or international problem. Even matters which are not specifically mentioned in the Address are brought into discussion through amendments to the Motion. The only limitation is that members cannot refer to matters which are not the direct responsibility of the Central Government.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the President addressed both Houses of Parliament assembled together twice, *viz.*, at the commencement of the First Session after the constitution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session of the year 1999 which in fact was the fourth session of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. The matters referred to in these Addresses were discussed in detail on each occasion on a Motion of Thanks. The total time involved in these discussions was 24 hours and 45 minutes.

Statement 35 shows the dates of President's Address and the time involved in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks.

Adjournment Motions

In parliamentary practice, the primary objective of an adjournment motion is to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance.

Generally speaking, the subject-matter of an adjournment motion must relate to the conduct of the Government and must be in the nature of criticism of Governmental action either of omission or commission. An adjournment motion is not admissible unless there is a failure on the part of the Government to perform the duties enjoined by the Constitution and the law. Where the Government of India has no obligation to intervene in a matter, an adjournment motion is out of order. An adjournment motion can also not be moved on matters where a Minister exercises discretionary powers conferred upon him by a Statute.

Normally an adjournment motion is moved with the consent of the Speaker and by the leave of the House. The merit of each notice with regard to the question of public importance, its definiteness and urgency is decided by the Speaker in his discretion. By nature, the adjournment motion is an interruption in the regular business of the House. The normal business of the House is set aside whenever an adjournment motion is taken up for discussion in the House and till such time as its disposal. After leave of the House to the moving of an adjournment motion has been granted and the time fixed for discussion thereon, the Speaker allows the motion to be moved at the appointed hour which is usually at 1600 hours of the day. The time allotted for discussion is not less than two and a half hours, unless the debate concludes earlier.

When the motion "that the House do now adjourn" is being discussed, the Speaker has no power to adjourn the House for the day because during that time the power vests in the House to take a decision on its adjournment. The motion has to be disposed of before the House is adjourned. In case the motion is adopted, the House automatically stands adjourned in pursuance of the adoption of the motion. If the motion is negatived, discussion on the business which had been interrupted by the adjournment motion is resumed or the next item on the Agenda is taken up for a short while and then the House is adjourned by the Speaker for the day. When the motion is withdrawn by leave of the House, the House may be adjourned without resuming further business if it is time for the House otherwise to adjourn in the normal course.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 83 notices of adjournment motions were received. However, not even a single notice was brought before the House. Statement 36 shows session-wise details of the number of notices of adjournment motions received.

No-Confidence Motion

Article 75(3) of the Constitution expressly provides that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People. When Parliament is sitting, the continuance of the Government in office depends from moment to moment on retaining the confidence of the House of the People.

Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha lays down the procedure for dealing with the motion of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers. Adoption of any such motion would, therefore, automatically result in the fall of the Government.

While it is true that there is no specific provision in the rules regarding a motion expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers, it does not follow that such motions would be inadmissible or that a motion of no-confidence which is the prerogative of the Opposition, must necessarily get precedence over a motion of confidence sponsored by the Ruling Party. Indeed, there have been many an occasion when motions of confidence in the Council of Ministers have been admitted and discussed in the House. Like all other motions on matters of public interest, the motions expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers are governed by the provisions of Chapter XIV of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, no notice of motion of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers was received. There were, however, two notices of motion of confidence in the Council of Ministers under rule 191 received during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Of these, one was adopted while the other was negatived. Statement 37 gives details about the motions of confidence in the Council of Ministers moved by the Prime Minister under rule 191.

Calling Attention

The concept of calling attention, which is an innovation in modern parliamentary procedure, is of Indian origin.

A member may, with the prior permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement immediately or ask for time to make a statement at a later date. No debate is permitted on the statement made by the Minister but every member who called the attention may ask a specific and brief

clarificatory question. Urgency and public importance are the main tests of admissibility of a calling attention notice. Not more than two calling attention matters can be taken up at any one sitting of the House. If notices on more than one matter are received for the same day, priority is given to the matter which, in the opinion of the Speaker, is more urgent and important.

A total of 424 notices of Calling Attention on matters of urgent public importance were received during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Of these 33 notices on eleven subjects were admitted representing 7.78 per cent of the total notices received. In response to the notices admitted, statements were made on eight subjects by the Ministers concerned before the House. Of the remaining three subjects, one pertaining to the Third session and two pertaining to the Fourth session, could not be taken up due to interruptions resulting in adjournment of the House. Statement 38 provides details of various aspects of Calling Attention during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Short Duration Discussions

In order to provide opportunities to members to discuss matters of urgent public importance, a convention was established in Lok Sabha in March 1953 whereby members could raise discussion for short durations without a formal motion or vote thereon. This procedure was incorporated later into the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha under rule 193 as 'Short Duration Discussion'.

Discussion under rule 193 does not involve a formal motion before the House. Hence no voting can take place after discussions on matters under this rule. The member who gives notice may make a short statement and such of the members as have previously intimated to the Speaker, may be permitted to take part in the discussion. The member who raises the discussion has no right of reply. At the end of the discussion, the Minister concerned gives a brief reply.

During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 15 Short Duration Discussions were raised by members. Some of the important discussions raised were on subjects such as nuclear tests at Pokhran, suicides committed by farmers in various parts of the country, rise in prices of essential commodities, floods in various parts of the country, increasing atrocities on women and minorities, insurgency in north-eastern region, Indiaís foreign policy, problems of SCs. And STs., etc. Statement 39 provides details of Short Duration Discussions taken up during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Motions

Rule 184 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha provides that "save insofar as is otherwise provided in the Constitution or in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, no discussion on a matter of general public interest shall take place in the House except on a motion made with the consent of the Speaker."

Motions for raising discussion on matters of general public interest are usually tabled in two forms. Under the first form, the House takes note of a document laid on the Table, while under the second, the position regarding a specific matter is taken into consideration by the House.

The first form is generally used in respect of a motion which seeks to discuss a report or a statement, etc. laid on the Table of the House. The motion in this form is a non-committal substantive motion and is submitted to the vote of the House at the end of the discussion. Such motions are discussed under rule 191 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

The second form of motion is generally used when a policy or a situation or a statement or any other matter is taken into consideration. Such motions are discussed under rule 342 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. The motion in this form is not submitted to the vote of the House at the end of the debate. However, if a member moves a substantive motion in substitution of the original motion, the vote of the House is taken thereon.

Matters raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha through motions under rules 191 and 342 were— (i) expressing Confidence in the Council of Ministers (twice under rule 191), (ii) Status Paper on Railways (under rule 342) and (iii) Final Report of the Jain Commission investigating into the assassination of late Rajiv Gandhi and action taken on the Report (under rule 342).

Statement 40 shows the details of motions moved under rules 191 and 342 during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Half-an-Hour Discussions

A half-an-hour discussion may be raised by a member on a matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a recent question (Starred, Unstarred or Short Notice) and the answer to which needs further elucidation of facts. Normally, notice to

raise a half-an-hour discussion should be given immediately after or within three days of the date on which the question, in respect of which facts are sought to be elucidated, has been answered in the House. The discussion is limited to half-an-hour and is held in the last thirty minutes of a sitting of the House. Half-an-hour discussions in the sessions other than Budget session are usually held on three days in a week. During the Budget session, normally not more than one half-an-hour discussion is put down in a week till the disposal of financial business. But during the last few days of a session, more than one such discussion may be allowed. There is no voting on a half-an-hour discussion as there is no formal motion before the House.

Statement 41 gives details of half-an-hour discussions raised during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Resolutions

A member or a Minister may, subject to the Rules of Procedure, move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest. Resolutions may be broadly divided into three categories, *viz.* (i) resolutions which are mere expressions of opinion by the House; (ii) resolutions which have a statutory effect; and (iii) resolutions which the House passes in the matter of control over its own proceedings. Resolutions may also be categorised as: (i) Government resolutions; (ii) Private Members' resolutions; and (iii) Statutory resolutions.

A resolution may be in the form of a declaration of opinion or a recommendation, or it may be in the form so as to record either approval or disapproval by the House of an act or policy of the Government or convey a message or commend, urge or request an action or call attention to a matter or situation for consideration by the Government, or in such other form as the Speaker may consider appropriate.

A resolution must purport to convey the opinion of the House as a whole and not of any section thereof. Moreover, the subject matter of a resolution should relate to a matter of general public interest and only those matters which are primarily the concern of the Government of India can form the subject matter of a resolution.

The last two and a half hours of a sitting on every alternate Friday of a session is usually allotted for the discussion of private members' resolutions.

Government resolutions are subject to the same rules as the private members' resolutions. The three broad categories under which Government resolutions may be classified are:

(i) resolutions approving international treaties, conventions or agreements to which the Government is a party;

(ii) resolutions declaring or approving certain policies of the Government; and

(iii) resolutions approving recommendations of certain committees.

Statutory resolutions are those which are moved in pursuance of a provision in the Constitution or an Act of Parliament. Such resolutions can be moved both by the Government and a private member. Certain enactments expressly require the Government to bring forward a resolution within a specified period of time.

Out of the 29 resolutions discussed during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 5 were Government resolutions, all of which were adopted. There were 22 Statutory resolutions, out of which 3 were adopted. Two were the private members' resolutions and neither of them was adopted.

Statement 42 gives details of the resolutions—Government, Statutory and Private Members'—moved during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Matters Raised under Rule 377

Matters which cannot be raised under the rules relating to Questions, Short Notice Questions, Calling Attention, Motions, etc., can be raised under rule 377. This procedural device provides an opportunity to members to raise issues, particularly those relating to their constituencies. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha as many as 667 matters were raised by the members in response to which 428 replies were sent to the members by the concerned Ministers.

Statement 43 indicates matters under rule 377 raised during the life span of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Points of Order

Any member can invite the Speaker's immediate attention to any instance of a breach of rule of the House, by raising a point of order. A point of order should relate to the interpretation or enforcement of the rules of procedure and conduct of business in the House or conventions or such articles of the Constitution as

regulate the business of the House and must raise a question which is within the cognizance of the Speaker. It can be raised only in relation to the business before the House at a particular moment. A point of order is not a point of privilege and it is not permissible for a member to raise a point of order to ask for information or to explain his position. A point of order cannot be raised against the decision of the Speaker in regard to the admissibility of notices. In all, 157 points of order were raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Of these, only 3 were upheld by the Speaker.

Statement 44 gives details about the Points of Order raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Matters Raised during 'Zero Hour'

Matters also come up in the House after Question Hour and before the taking up of the listed business. This period popularly known as the 'Zero Hour' is sought to be made use of by members to attract attention of the Government on various issues which agitate their mind. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha as many as 732 matters of public importance were raised taking a time of 39 hours and 39 minutes constituting 6.95 per cent of the total time of the House.

Statement 45 gives statistical details about the matters raised after 'Question Hour' and before taking up listed business during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 35

Dates of the President's Address and the Time Devoted on Discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's Address during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session	Date of President's Address	Date(s) of Discussion on Motion of Thanks	Time Taken	
			Hrs.	Mts.
First	25.3.1998	30.3.1998 31.3.1998	12	32
Fourth	22.2.1999	11.3.1999 12.3.1999 15.3.1999	12	13

STATEMENT 36

Adjournment Motions in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Year and Session	Total number of Notices received	Notices brought before the House	Number of Notices admitted	Time Taken	
				Hrs.	Mts.
1998					
First	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Second	29	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Third	47	Nil	Nil	Nil	
1999					
Fourth	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	

STATEMENT 37

Motions of Confidence in the Council of Ministers under Rule 191 during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Member in Charge	Subject	Date(s) of Discussion on the Motion	Time Taken Hrs.	Time Taken Mts.	Remarks
1.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	Motion expressing Confidence in the Council of Ministers	27.3.1998 28.3.1998	17	56	Motion Adopted
2.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	-do-	15.4.1999 16.4.1999 17.4.1999	24	58	Motion Negatived

STATEMENT 38

Notices of Calling Attention of Ministers to Matters of Urgent Public Importance under Rule 197 during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session	Number of Notices received	Number of Notices admitted	Col. 3 as % of Col. 2	Number of statements made by the Ministers concerned	Col. 5 as % of Col. 3	Time Taken Hrs.	Time Taken Mts.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
First	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Second	180	15	8.33	4	26.67	4	05
Third	113	8	7.09	2	25.00	1	20
Fourth	111	10	9.00	2	20.00	0	59
Total	424	33	7.78	8	24.24	6	24

STATEMENT 39

Discussions on Matters of Urgent Public Importance for Short Duration under Rule 193 held during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Subject	Name of the member who raised Discussion	Date(s) of Discussion	Time Taken	
				Hrs.	Mts.
1	2	3	4	5	
First Session					
	Nil				
Second Session					
1.	Statement made by the Prime Minister on Pokhran nuclear tests.	Shri Indrajit Gupta	27.5.1998 28.5.1998 29.5.1998	12	56
2.	Incidents of suicide committed by farmers in various parts of the country due to non-payment of remunerative prices for their agricultural produce.	Shri Vilas Muttemwar	1.6.1998 2.6.1998 3.6.1998	10	04
3.	Rise in prices of essential commodities.	Shri Basudeb Acharia	9.7.1998	5	45
4.	Statement made by the Minister of Industry regarding Maruti Udyog Limited.	Shri S. Jaipal Reddy	21.7.1998	3	09
5.	Floods in various parts of the country.	Shri Mohan Singh	22.7.1998	4	35
6.	Increasing atrocities on women.	Smt. Geeta Mukherjee	23.7.1998 24.7.1998 27.7.1998 28.7.1998	16	28
7.	Situation in the North-Eastern region due to insurgency.	Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita	29.7.1998 31.7.1998	5	45

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
8.	Recent developments affecting India's Foreign policy.	Shri P. A. Sangma	3.8.1998 4.8.1998	7	14
9.	Statement made by the Home Minister regarding deportation of certain people by Maharashtra Government.	Shri Hannan Mollah	3.8.1998 4.8.1998	4	41
10.	Problems of SCs and STs.	Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	4.8.1998	7	28
Third Session					
11.	Rise in prices of essential commodities.	Shri Rajesh Pilot	3.12.1998 7.12.1998 8.12.1998	10	39
12.	Atrocities committed on minorities in various parts of the country.	Shri Arif Mohamad Khan	8.12.1998 9.12.1998 10.12.1998 15.12.1998 16.12.1998	12	04
13.	Damage to crops due to natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, etc.	Smt. Geeta Mukherjee	21.12.1998	1	29
14.	Statement made by the Prime Minister on bilateral Talks with United States.	Shri Rupchand Pal	22.12.1998	2	21
Fourth Session					
15.	Allegations levelled by the former Advisor to the Finance Minister against the Government.	Shri P. Shiv Shanker	16.3.1999	2	30

STATEMENT 40

Discussion on Motions under Rules 191 and 342 held during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Brief Subject	Motion Under Rule	Name of the Member	Date (s) of Discussion	Time Taken Hrs.	Time Taken Mts.	Remarks
1.	Motion expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers.	191	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	27.3.1998 28.3.1998	17	56	Motion Adopted
2.	The Status Paper on Railways.	342	Shri Nitish Kumar	4.6.1998 5.6.1998 8.6.1998 9.6.1998	21	09	-
3.	The Final Report of the Jain Commission and Memorandum of Action Taken on the Report laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 31.7.1998.	342	Shri Madan Lal Khurana (on behalf of Shri L.K.Advani, Minister for Home Affairs)	5.8.1998 6.8.1998	14	28	-
4.	Motion expressing confidence in the Council of Ministers.	191	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	15.4.1999 16.4.1999 17.4.1999	24	58	Motion Negatived

STATEMENT 41

Half-an-Hour Discussions held during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Name of the member Who raised the Discussion	Subject	Date of Discussion
1.	Shri Gauri Shankar Bisen	Safe Drinking Water	29.7.1998
2.	Shri N.K. Premchandran	Leila Seth Commission	3.8.1998
3.	Shri K. S. Rao	Hike in Import Duty	18.12.1998
4.	Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey	Revival of National Textile Corporation Mills	21.12.1998

STATEMENT 42

Resolutions Discussed in the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Subject Matter of the Resolution	Name of the Minister/Member who moved the resolution	Date(s) on which the Resolution was discussed	Time Taken		Decision of the House
				Hrs.	Mts.	
1	2	3	4	5		6
	A. Government Resolutions					
First Session						
1.	Approval of the recommendations made in paras 40,41,42,44,45,47 and 48 contained in the Twelfth Report of the Railway Convention Committee 1991, appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertakings to General Revenues, etc. which was presented in Lok Sabha on 12.3.1996.	Shri Nitish Kumar	26.3.1998	3	52	Adopted
2.	Approval of the recommendations made in paras 64,65,66,67 and 70 contained in the Third Report of the Railway Convention Committee, 1996 appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertakings to General Revenues, etc. which was presented in Lok Sabha on 2.12.1997.					
Second Session						
3.	Appointment of a Parliamentary Committee consisting of 12 members from Lok Sabha to review the rate of dividend presently payable by the Railway Undertakings to General Revenues and other ancilliary matters in connection with Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* General Finance.	Shri Nitish Kumar	2.6.1998	00	02	Adopted

1	2	3	4	5	6	
4.	Recommendation to Rajya Sabha to associate six members of that House with the Parliamentary Committee to review the rate of dividend presently payable by the Railway Undertakings to General Revenues and other ancillary matter in connection with Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* General Finance.	Shri Nitish Kumar	2.6.1998	00	02	Adopted
Third Session						
	Nil					
Fourth Session						
5.	Approval of the recommendations made in paras 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 42 contained in the Second Report of the Railway Convention Committee, 1998 appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertakings to General Revenues, etc., which was presented to Lok Sabha on 24.2.1999 with modifications as proposed in the Revised Estimates of 1998-99 to the appropriations to the Depreciation Reserve Fund and Pension Fund, covered by paras 38 and 39 of the recommendations.	Shri Nitish Kumar	13.3.1998	10	56	Adopted
		B. Statutory Resolutions				
First Session						
1.	Disapproval of the Contigency Fund of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No.30 of 1997) promulgated by the President on 26.12.1997.	Shri G.M. Banatwalla	26.3.1998	0	02	Withdrawn
2.	Disapproval of the Contigency Fund of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No.4 of 1998) promulgated by the President on 24.1.1998.					

1	2	3	4	5	6	
3.	Disapproval of the Income Tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997 (No.28 of 1997) promulgated by the President on 26.12.1997.	Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy	30.3.1998	0	08	Withdrawn
Second Session						
4.	Disapproval of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Second) Ordinance, 1998 (No.9 of 1998) promulgated on 23.4.1998.		4.6.1998	1	21	Withdrawn
5.	Disapproval of the Electricity Regulatory Commission Ordinance, 1998 (No.14 of 1998) promulgated on 25.4.1998.		9.6.1998	3	36	Negatived
6.	Disapproval of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provision (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No.8 of 1998) promulgated on 23.4.1996.	Shri Basudeb Acharia	9.6.1998 10.6.1998	1	11	Withdrawn
7.	Disapproval of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No.12 of 1998) promulgated on 24.4.1998.		10.6.1998	0	35	Withdrawn
8.	Disapproval of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Ordinance 1998 (No.7 of 1998) promulgated on 23.4.1998.		10.6.1998	0	48	Withdrawn
9.	Disapproval of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 promulgated on 23.4.1998.	Shri Mohan Singh	10.6.1998	0	19	Withdrawn
10.	Disapproval of the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1998 (No.11 of 1998) promulgated on 24.4.1998.	Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy		2	45	Withdrawn

1	2	3	4	5	6	
11.	Disapproval of the Finance (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No. 5 of 1998) promulgated on 21.4.1998			0	34	Withdrawn
		Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy	4.7.1998	3	33	Discussion postponed
12.	Disapproval of the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance 1998 (No. 12 of 1998) promulgated on 25.4.1998					
13.	Disapproval of the Lotteries (Regulation) Ordinance 1998 (No. 6 of 1998) promulgated on 23.4.1998			1	52	Withdrawn
Third Session						
14.	Disapproval of the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Ordinance 1998 (No.17 of 1998) promulgated on 3.12.1998	Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy	2.12.1998	2	10	Withdrawn
15.	Approval of the Draft Ministers (Allowances, Medical Treatment and other Privileges) Amendment Rules 1998 as laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 15.12.1998	Shri L.K. Advani	22.12.1998	0	03	Adopted
16.	Disapproval of the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 (No.19 of 1998) promulgated on 31.12.1998.	Shri Ram Meena	22.12.1998	0	23	Negatived
Fourth Session						
17.	Approval of the Proclamation issued by the President on 10.2.1999 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Goa.		24.2.1999	3	17	Adopted
18.	Approval of the Proclamation issued by the President on 12.2.1999 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Bihar	Shri L.K. Advani	25.2.1999 26.2.1999	13	59	Adopted

1	2	3	4	5	6	
19.	Disapproval of the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999 (No.1 of 1999) promulgated by the President on 7.1.1999		5.3.1999	0	21	Negatived
20.	Disapproval of the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation Repeal) Ordinance, 1999 promulgated by the President on 11.1.1999	Shri V.V. Raghvan	8.3.1999	3	26	Negatived
21.	Disapproval of the Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, 1999 (No. 3 of 1999) promulgated by the President on 8.1.1999		9.3.1999 10.3.1999	6	41	Negatived
22.	Disapproval of the Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1999 (No. 4 of 1999) promulgated by the President on 8.1.1999.	Shri Basudeb Acharia	15.3.1999	3	20	Negatived

C. Private Members' Resolutions

First Session

Nil

Second Session

1.	National Housing Policy	Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey	2.6.1998 5.6.1998 17.7.1998	4	45	Withdrawn
2.	Rehabilitation of Sick Public Undertakings	Dr. Asim Bala	17.7.1998 5.3.1999	3	28	Discussion not concluded

Third Session

Nil

Fourth Session

Nil.

STATEMENT 43

Matters Raised Under Rule 377 during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session	No. of Matters raised	No. of Replies sent to Members by the Ministers	Time Taken	
			Hrs.	Mts.
First	70	57	0	25
Second	355	256	6	27
Third	132	80	2	34
Fourth	110	35	2	26

STATEMENT 44

Points of Order Raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session	Number of Points of order raised	Points of order up-held by the Chair	Points of order over-ruled by the Chair	Points of order on which no ruling was given being no point of order	Time Taken	
					Hrs.	Mts.
First	26	2	21	3	1	09
Second	54	1	52	1	1	34
Third	34	Nil	34	Nil	1	24
Fourth	43	Nil	40	3	1	12
Total	157	3	147	7	5	19

STATEMENT 45

Matters Raised after 'Question Hour' and before taking up the Listed Business during the Twelfth Lok Sabha (Session-wise)

Session	No. of Matters raised	No. of Members who spoke	Time Taken	
			Hrs.	Mts.
First	21	24	1	12
Second	354	378	17	02
Third	184	187	8	53
Fourth	173	219	12	32
Total	732	808	39	39

7

PRIVILEGE MATTERS

In parliamentary parlance, the term 'privilege' means certain rights and immunities enjoyed by each House of Parliament and its Committees collectively, and by the members of each House individually without which they cannot discharge their functions efficiently and effectively. The object of parliamentary privilege is to safeguard the freedom, the authority and the dignity of Parliament. Privileges are enjoyed by individual members, because the House cannot perform its functions without an unimpeded use of the services of its members. Each House also enjoys these privileges collectively for the protection of its members and the vindication of its own authority and dignity. While privileges are available to individual members only insofar as they are necessary for the House to perform its functions freely, without any let or hindrance, they do not exempt the members from such obligations to the society as apply to other citizens. Parliamentary privileges do not place a member of Parliament on a footing different from that of an ordinary citizen in the matter of application of laws, unless there are good and sufficient reasons in the interest of Parliament itself to do so.

Some of the important privileges of each House of Parliament and of its members and Committees are: freedom of speech in Parliament; immunity to a member from any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any Committee thereof; immunity to a person from proceedings in any court in respect of the publication by or under the authority of either House of Parliament of any report, paper, votes or proceedings; prohibition on the courts to enquire into proceedings of Parliament, and freedom from arrest of members in civil cases during the continuance of the session of the House and forty days before its commencement and forty days after its conclusion. The privilege of freedom from arrest does not, however, extend to preventive arrest or detention under statutory authority by executive order and in criminal cases.

When any individual or authority disregards or attacks any of the privileges, rights and immunities, either of the members individually or of the House in its collective capacity, the offence is called a breach of privilege and is punishable by the House. Besides, breaches of specific privileges, actions in the nature of offences against the authority or dignity of the House, such as disobedience to its legitimate orders or libels upon itself, its members or officers, are also punishable as contempt of the House.

Contempt of the House may be defined generally as "any act or omission which obstructs or impedes either House of Parliament in the performance of its functions or which obstructs or impedes any member or officer of such House in the discharge of his duty or which has a tendency, directly or indirectly, to produce such results". Some typical cases of the contempt of Parliament are: speeches or writings reflecting on the House, its Committees or members; reflections on the character and impartiality of the Speaker in the discharge of his duty; publication of false or distorted report of the proceedings of the House; molestation of members on account of their conduct in the House or obstructing members while performing their duties as members or while on their way to or from attending the House or a Committee thereof; offering bribes to members to influence them in their parliamentary conduct; and intimidation of members in connection with their parliamentary conduct.

A question of privilege may either be considered and decided by the House itself, or it may be referred by the House, on a motion made by any member, to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation

and report. The usual practice is, however, to refer the question of privilege to the Committee of Privileges, and the House reserves its judgement until the Report of the Committee has been presented. Besides, the Speaker may also *suo motu* refer any question of privilege to the Committee for examination, investigation and report.

Privilege Matters raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

In all, four cases of privilege were raised in the House during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, two of which were referred to the Committee of Privileges. Another privilege matter which remained inconclusive before the Committee of Privileges (Eleventh Lok Sabha) was also referred by the Speaker to the Committee of Privilege during the Twelfth Lok Sabha. A brief account of these cases is as under.

The first case related to alleged misbehaviour with Smt. Rama Devi, M.P. by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Central Bureau of Investigation, Patna, Bihar and alleged derogatory remarks made against her and members of Parliament by him. After a brief deliberation over this issue in the House on 8 June 1998, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report. The Committee examined the matter and presented their report to the House on 22 December 1998. The Committee recommended that in view of their findings, their displeasure over the conduct of the concerned Police Officer may be conveyed to the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation for such action as he deems fit in the matter.

The second case related to shouting of slogans and throwing of pamphlets by a former member of Parliament from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery. In this case the House, on a motion moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, resolved that the said person had committed a grave offence and was therefore guilty of the contempt of the House. The House further resolved that considering the fact that the person was a former member of Parliament, she be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House on that day. The matter was, thereafter, closed.

The third case related to throwing of leaflets and attempting to shout slogans by some persons from the Visitors' Gallery. In this case too, the House resolved, on a motion moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, that the said persons had committed a grave offence and therefore were guilty of the contempt of the House. The House further resolved that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House on that day.

The fourth case related to disorderly conduct by some members and scuffle between them in the Lok Sabha Chamber. On 11 December 1998 there was pandemonium in the House over the issue of introduction of the Constitution (Eighty-fourth Amendment) Bill, 1998. There were heated exchanges in the House and amidst the melee, a minor scuffle took place between Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj and Km. Mamata Banerjee, both members of Parliament. On the same day Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj gave a notice of question of privilege against Km. Mamata Banerjee for having allegedly assaulted him. Subsequently, Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, M.P. also gave a notice of question of privilege against Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj for having allegedly assaulted Km. Mamata Banerjee. On 14 December 1998 the Speaker while making an observation deprecating the unruly incident that took place in the House, referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges with a direction to give a time-bound report. The Committee held preliminary deliberations on the matter. However, before the Committee could complete the evidence and arrive at their conclusions, the Twelfth Lok Sabha was dissolved on 26 April 1999 and the matter, therefore, lapsed.

Another privilege matter which was referred to the Committee of Privileges pertained to the alleged misbehaviour with and assault on Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma, M.P. by the Police on 10 January 1997 at Bokaro, Bihar. This privilege matter remained inconclusive before the Committee of Privileges (Eleventh Lok Sabha) and on a notice in this respect by Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma herself, it was referred by the Speaker to the Committee of Privileges (Twelfth Lok Sabha) for examination and report. In this case, the Committee after considering and deliberating upon the evidence already on record, decided to take further evidence of the main accused in the case. The matter, however, lapsed on dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. Privilege matters raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are detailed in a tabular form in Statement 46.

STATEMENT 46

Privilege Matters raised during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Brief Subject	Name of the member who raised the matter	Date on which matter brought before the House	Time Taken		Decision of Chair/House
				Hrs.	Mts.	
1	2	3	4	5		6
1.	Question of privilege regarding alleged misbehaviour with Smt. Rama Devi, M.P. by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Central Bureau of Investigation, Patna, Bihar and alleged derogatory remarks made against her and members of Parliament by him.	Smt. Rama Devi	8.6.1998	0	11	After a brief deliberation over this issue in the House, the Speaker referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report. The Committee examined the matter and presented their Report to the House on 22.12.1998
2.	Shouting of slogans and throwing of pamphlets from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery.		15.7.1998	0	03	The House adopted a motion moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the person (an Ex-MP) who shouted slogans and also threw some pamphlets from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery, and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, had committed a grave offence and was guilty of the contempt of the House. The House further resolved that considering the fact that the person was a former member of Parliament, she be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House on that day.
3.	Throwing of leaflets and attempting to shout slogans from the Visitors' Gallery.		17.7.1998	0	03	The House adopted a motion moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the persons who attempted to shout slogans and also threw some leaflets from the Visitors' Gallery, and whom the Security Officers took into custody immediately, had committed a grave offence and were guilty of the contempt of the House. The House further resolved that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House on that day.

1	2	3	4	5		6
4. (i)	Question of privilege against Km. Mamata Banerjee, MP for having allegedly assaulted and misbehaved with Sh. Daroga Prasad Saroj, M.P. in the House on 11.12.1998.	Sh. Daroga Prasad Saroj	14.12.1998	0	01	The Speaker while making an observation deprecating the unruly incident that took place in the House on 11.12.98, referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges with a direction to give a time bound Report.
(ii)	Question of privilege against Sh. Daroga Prasad Saroj, M.P. for having allegedly assaulted Km. Mamata Banerjee, MP and other lady members in the House on 11.12.1998.	Sh. Sudip Bandyopadhyay	14.12.1998			

8

SUO MOTU STATEMENTS/PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Suo Motu Statements Made by Ministers

In order to keep the House informed about matters of public importance or to state the Government's policy in regard to a matter of topical interest, Ministers make statements in the House, from time to time, under rule 372 of the Rules of Procedure, with the consent of the Speaker.

As a rule, questions are not permitted after a statement is made by a Minister because there is no formal motion before the House on which debate may take place.

In order that Parliament may come to know at the earliest opportunity about all serious occurrences in the country, a convention is being followed that Ministers make statements in the House regarding such occurrences *suo motu*. As a general convention, policy statements, are first made on the floor of the House, when it is in session, before releasing them to the Press or the public.

Statement 47 gives the details of the 64 statements made by Ministers during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Papers Laid on the Table

In parliamentary parlance, 'Papers laid on the Table' signify any document, statement, report, rules and regulations, Government notifications etc., which are laid on the Table of the House in order to bring them on record. The purpose is to make available to Parliament authoritative facts and information with a view to preparing ground for discussion on various matters in the House.

Lok Sabha is vested with the power of ordering all papers to be laid before it as are necessary for its information. Papers are, however, generally laid in compliance with specific provisions contained in the Constitution, various Central Statutes, Rules of Procedure of the House, Directions issued by the Speaker from time to time and the settled practices and conventions in regard thereto and the recommendations of Parliamentary Committees.

Papers Laid under the Constitution

The following papers are laid on the Table of the House in pursuance of various constitutional provisions:

(i) Budget and other documents connected therewith (Article 112);

(ii) Demands for Supplementary and Excess Grants (Article 115);

(iii) Ordinances promulgated by the President (Article 123);

(iv) Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (Article 151);

(v) Reports of the Finance Commission (Article 281);

(vi) Reports of the Union Public Service Commission (Article 323);

(vii) Reports of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Article 338);

(viii) Reports of the Backward Classes Commission (Article 340);

(ix) Reports of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities (Article 350B);

(x) Proclamations regarding President's rule in a State (Article 356);

(xi) Presidential Orders issued under Article 359;

(xii) Proclamations of Emergency (Article 352); and

(xiii) Proclamations regarding Financial Emergency (Article 360).

Papers Laid under Statutes

The following papers are laid under various Statutes:

(i) Annual reports and audited accounts in respect of public undertakings incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, or created under specific Acts of Parliament;

(ii) Reports on statutory bodies, other than public undertakings, created under specific Acts of Parliament;

(iii) Rules, sub-rules, regulations, bye-laws framed by the Government in exercise of the power of delegated legislation; and

(iv) Government resolutions, statutory or executive orders or any other papers issued under various Central statutes.

Papers Laid under the Rules of Procedure

The following categories of papers are laid on the Table under various provisions of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha:

(i) Reports of Select and Joint Committee on Bills;

(ii) Reports of standing Parliamentary Committees;

(iii) Petitions;

(iv) Statements regarding Ordinances;

(v) Rules, regulations etc., as modified in accordance with amendments adopted by both Houses;

(vi) Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha, including Bills returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments;

(vii) Bills returned by the President for reconsideration; and

(viii) Replies to Unstarred Questions or Questions not reached for oral answer.

Papers Laid under Directions by the Speaker

In pursuance of the Directions issued by the Speaker, the following papers are required to be laid on the Table:

(i) Statements by Ministers in reply to half-an-hour discussions when a full reply could not be given at the allotted time for the purpose;

(ii) Opinions on Bills circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion thereon;

(iii) Bills assented to by the President;

(iv) Statements in response to Calling Attention notices in case more than one notice is admitted for a day;

(v) Minutes of Standing Parliamentary Committees; and

(vi) Documents connected with the report of a Select or Joint Committee.

Papers Laid on the Recommendations of a Parliamentary Committee

Parliamentary Committees may sometimes make recommendations in their reports presented to the House requiring certain documents, reports, explanatory memoranda, etc. to be placed before the House. In pursuance of such recommendations, the relevant papers are laid on the Table of the House.

A Private Member can also lay a paper on the Table of the House with the permission of the Speaker. Thus, when a Private Member quotes from a document, he may lay it on the Table of the House either of his own accord or in pursuance of a demand made in the House. A Private Member may also be required to lay on the Table documents to substantiate allegations made by him.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha a total of 5,367 papers were laid on the Table of the House as per details given in Statement 48.

STATEMENT 47

Suo Motu Statements Made/Laid by Ministers under Rule 372 During the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Subject	Name of Minister	Date	Time Taken	
				Hrs.	Mts.
1	2	3	4	5	
First Session					
1.	Natural calamity in Bengal and Orissa on 24 March, 1998.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	25.3.1998	0	02
2.	Situation arising out of thunder-squalls in Orissa and West Bengal on 24 March, 1998 and the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the Government.	Shri Som Pal	31.3.1998	0	20
Second Session					
3.	Recent nuclear tests in Pokhran.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	27.5.1998	0	11
4.	Dispersal of BSP Rally by Delhi Police.	Shri L.K. Advani	27.5.1998	0	08
5.	Government Business for the week commencing 1 June, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	29.5.1998	0	02
6.	Pakistan's nuclear tests.	Shri George Fernandes	29.5.1998	0	01
7.	A blast on bridge No. 237 between Gosaigaon-Chautara Block Section of New Cooch-Behar New Bongaigaon Section of Northeast Frontier Railway.	Shri Nitish Kumar	2.6.1998	0	02
8.	Government Business for the week commencing 8 June, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	5.6.1998	0	02
9.	Situation in Assam.	Shri L.K. Advani	5.6.1998	0	08

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
10.	Maruti Udyog Limited.	Shri Sikander Bakht	8.6.1998	0	18
11.	U.N. Security Council Resolution.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	8.6.1998	0	09
12.	Communal situation in Moradabad and Hyderabad.	Shri L.K. Advani	9.6.1998	0	09
13.	Situation caused by cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.	Shri Som Pal	10.6.1998	0	05
14.	Price policy for Copra for 1998 season and Jute for 1998-99 season.	Shri Som Pal	10.6.1998	0	23
15.	The latest position of the situation caused by the recent cyclonic storm in Gujarat and Rajasthan.	Shri Som Pal	12.6.1998	0	03
16.	Government Business for the week commencing 6 July, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	4.7.1998	0	02
17.	Constitution of the Eleventh Finance Commission.	Shri Yashwant Sinha	6.7.1998	0	03
18.	Postal strike.	Smt. Sushma Swaraj	10.7.1998	0	11
19.	Calling off of the postal strike.	Smt. Sushma Swaraj	16.7.1998	0	01
20.	Government Business for the week commencing 20 July, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	17.7.1998	0	02
21.	Staging of a Marathi play in Mumbai- "Mee Nathuram Godse Boltoyae".	Shri L.K. Advani	17.7.1998	0	02
22.	Threats of violence to Shri Suresh Navale, Former Minister of State for Energy, Maharashtra and alleged phone calls threatening Shri Gulab Rao Gawande, a Former Minister.	Shri L.K. Advani	22.7.1998	0	02

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
23.	Swarnajayanti Fellowships for young Scientists.	Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi	22.7.1998	0	07
24.	Situation arising out of the strike by Group C & D Employees of Government Hospitals in Delhi.	Shri Dalit Ezhilmalai	23.7.1998	0	08
25.	Government Business for the week commencing 27 July, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	24.7.1998	0	02
26.	Telecast of a documentary on Sardar Sarovar Project	Smt. Sushma Swaraj	24.7.1998	0	02
27.	The Bomb blast incident which occurred at Inter-State Bus Terminus, Delhi on 26 July, 1998.	Shri L.K. Advani	27.7.1998	0	24
28.	Deportation of certain people by Maharashtra Government.	Shri L.K. Advani	28.7.1998	0	03
29.	The action of U.S. Government in serving notices to certain Indian Scientists for return to India.	Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi	28.7.1998	0	11
30.	Calling off the strike by Group C and D Employees of Government Hospitals in Delhi.	Shri Dalit Ezhilmalai	28.7.1998	0	04
31.	The accident of an Indian Airlines Dornier Aircraft at Cochin.	Shri Ananth Kumar	30.7.1998	0	02
32.	Government Business for the week commencing 3 August, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	31.7.1998	0	02
33.	The incident of killing of 16 persons by the militants in Doda district on 27 July, 1998.	Shri L.K. Advani	31.7.1998	0	17

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
34.	National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP).	Shri Baba Gouda Patil	3.8.1998	0	03
35.	Visit of Prime Minister to Colombo in connection with SAARC Summit.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	3.8.1998	0	14
36.	The incidents of killings by the militants in Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh on 3 August, 1998.	Shri L.K. Advani	3.8.1998	0	05
37.	Important measures that are being taken to increase export.	Shri Ramakrishna Hegde	5.8.1998	0	10
38.	Situation along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.	Shri George Fernandes	5.8.1998	0	07
Third Session					
39.	Railway accident on 26 November 1998 near Khanna Station of Ambala Division.	Shri Nitish Kumar	2.12.1998	0	05
40.	The controversy over a religious shrine near Chikkamagalur (Karnataka).	Shri L.K. Advani	3.12.1998	0	08
41.	Price Policy for Rabi Crops of 1998-99 to be marketed in 1999-2000.	Shri Som Pal	3.12.1998	0	06
42.	Regarding derailment of 8029 DN Kurla-Howrah Express on Manmad-Jalgaon section of Central Railways, Bhusaval Division on 3 December, 1998.	Shri Nitish Kumar	3.12.1998	0	03
43.	Government Business for the week commencing the 7 December, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	4.12.1998	0	02
44.	Further details of the derailment of Kurla-Howrah Express, on 3 December, 1998.	Shri Ram Naik	4.12.1998	0	03

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
45.	Incidents relating to the Aligarh Muslim University.	Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi	4.12.1998	0	06
46.	Initiative taken for improving the availability of fertilisers during Rabi, 1998-99.	Shri Som Pal	10.12.1998	0	08
47.	Government Business for the week commencing 14 December, 1998.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	14.12.1998	0	02
48.	Bilateral talks with United States of America.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	15.12.1998	0	18
49.	Grant of Out-of-turns Allotment of Gas/Telephone connections by Members of Parliament.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	15.12.1998	0	05
50.	Incidents related to screening of the film 'Fire'.	Shri L.K. Advani	15.12.1998	0	06
51.	Developments relating to Iraq.	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee	17.12.1998	0	05
52.	Extra Departmental Agents of the Department of Posts.	Shri Jag Mohan	17.12.1998	0	14
53.	Government Business during the remaining part of the current Session.	Shri Madan Lal Khurana	18.12.1998	0	02
54.	Bomb blasts in Assam.	Shri L.K. Advani	22.12.1998	0	03
55.	The Indo-Russian Press statement issued on the official visit to India by the Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation.	Shri Jaswant Singh	22.12.1998	0	01
56.	Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).	Shri Ram Naik	23.12.1998	0	01

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	
Fourth Session					
57.	Government Business for Thursday, 4 and Friday, 5 March 1999.	Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam	26.2.1999	0	02
58.	Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan.	Shri Jaswant Singh	26.2.1999	0	13
59.	Government Business for the week commencing 8 March, 1999.	Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam	05.3.1999	0	02
60.	Revocation of President's Rule in the State of Bihar.	Shri L.K. Advani	08.3.1999	0	01
61.	Crash of an Indian Air Force aircraft near Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi on 7 March, 1999.	Shri George Fernandes	08.3.1999	0	03
62.	Telecommunication Tariff Order 99 dated 9 March, 1999.	Shri Jag Mohan	10.3.1999	0	01
63.	Government Business for the week commencing 15 March, 1999.	Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	13.3.1999	0	02
64.	Leakage/Fire at the platform in Gas Field B-121 in Mumbai offshore.	Shri K. Ramamurthy	15.3.1999	0	11

STATEMENT 48

Statistics of Papers Laid on the Table of the House during the Twelfth Lok Sabha by the Government and Private Members

Sl No.	Session	Papers Laid by the Government	Papers Laid by Private Members	Total
1.	First	193	Nil	193
2.	Second	2856	1	2857
3.	Third	1601	Nil	1601
4.	Fourth	716	Nil	716
	Total:	5366	1	5367

9

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

The work done by the Parliament in modern times is both varied in nature and considerable in volume. But often the time available at its disposal is limited. It cannot, therefore, give close and expert consideration to all the legislative and other matters that come up before it. A substantial part of parliamentary work is, therefore, done by Parliamentary Committees.

Parliamentary Committees are of two types: Standing Committees and *ad hoc* Committees. Standing Committees are elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker (Lok Sabha)/Chairman (Rajya Sabha) every year or from time to time, as the case may be and are permanent in nature, whereas *ad hoc* Committees are constituted to consider and report on specific matters and become *functus officio* as soon as they submit their report. Examples of *ad hoc* Committees are the Select or Joint Committees on Bills which are appointed to consider and report on particular Bills. Others like the Railway Convention Committee and the Committees on the Draft Five Year Plans were appointed for specific purposes.

Various Standing Committees (and certain Joint Committees) of Parliament are as follows: (i) Financial Committees (Committee on Estimates, Committee on Public Accounts and Committee on Public Undertakings); (ii) House Committees i.e. Committees relating to the day-to-day business of the House (Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House (in Lok Sabha only) and Rules Committee; (iii) Enquiry Committtees (Committee on Petitions and Committee of Privileges*); (iv) Scrutiny Committees (Committee on Government Assurances, Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table and Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes); (v)Service Committees i.e. Committees concerned with the provision of various services and facilities to members (General Purposes Committee, House Committee, Library Committee, Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament and Joint Committee on Offices of Profit).

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Rules Committee, a major step forward for strengthening parliamentary control over Government was initiated during the Eighth Lok Sabha by setting up three Subject Committees one each on Agriculture, Science and Technology, and Environment and Forests with effect from 18 August, 1989.

Each of these Committees consisted of 22 members– 15 from Lok Sabha nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and 7 from Rajya Sabha nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha.

The main functions of the Committee on Agriculture were to examine all matters dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture and allied organisations and suggest *inter-alia*, measures for modernisation and over-all development of agriculture and agricultural industries. The functions of the Committee on Science and Technology were to oversee all matters dealt with by the Ministry of Science and Technology and allied organisations and to suggest *inter-alia* measures for promoting economic development through increased use of scientific and technological innovations. The functions of the Committee on Environment and Forests were to

* The Rajya Sabha has an Ethics Committee also which was constituted for the first time on 4 March, 1997.

examine such matters as are dealt with by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and allied organisations and suggest measures for the survey and conservation of flora, fauna, forests and wild life; prevention and control of pollution, afforestation and regeneration of degraded parts of the environment in the country; etc.

The Committee System underwent further changes during the Tenth Lok Sabha. It may be mentioned that after observing the functioning of the three Subject Committees set up in 1989, the matter relating to constitution of the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committees was considered by the Rules Committee and the General Purposes Committee of both the Houses of Parliament during 1992-93. It was felt that a full-fledged system of Departmentally-related Standing Committees be created covering under their jurisdiction all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

The report of the Rules Committee in this regard was adopted by the two Houses of Parliament on 29 March, 1993. On 31 March, 1993 the then Vice-President and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha Shri K.R. Narayanan (now President of India) formally inaugurated the new Standing Committees. With the setting up of these Committees, the three Subject Committees, constituted in 1989 ceased to exist. The 17 Departmentally-related Standing Committees were formally constituted on 8 April, 1993. These Committees are as follows:—

1. Committee on Agriculture; 2. Committee on Communications; 3. Committee on Commerce; 4. Committee on Defence; 5. Committee on Energy; 6. Committee on External Affairs; 7. Committee on Finance; 8. Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution; 9. Committee on Home Affairs, 10. Committee on Human Resource Development, 11. Committee on Industry; 12. Committee on Labour and Welfare; 13. Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals; 14. Committee on Railways; 15. Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests; 16. Committee on Transport and Tourism; and 17.Committee on Urban and Rural Development.

Each of these Committees has 45 members drawn from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in the proportion of 2:1, respectively. Six Committees, namely the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Home Affairs, the Committee on Human Resource Development, the Committee on Industry, the Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests and the Committee on Transport and Tourism work under the directions of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. The rest of the Committees work under the directions of the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The functions of the Departmentally-related Standing Committees are to consider, *inter-alia*, the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/ Departments; national basic long-term policy documents presented to the House and referred to them; Annual Reports of the concerned Ministries/Departments; and examine Bills pertaining to these Ministries/ Departments as are referred to them and make reports thereon to the House. The Committees, however, do not consider matters relating to the day-to-day administration of the concerned Ministries/ Departments.

During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the various Departmentally-related Standing Committees held as many as 341 sittings and presented 154 reports. The three Financial Committees held as many as 56 sittings and submitted 22 reports. Statement 48 gives an account of the work done by the various Parliamentary Committees during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

The Twelfth Lok Sabha was dissolved on 26 April 1999 *i.e.* before the one year term of the Parliamentary Committees got over. Hence the information given under Statement 49 on the various aspects of the activities of the Committees relates to the period 1998-99 only.

Yet another Standing Committee, namely, the Committee on Empowerment of Women was constituted for the first time on 24 April, 1997 under the Chairpersonship of Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha to review and monitor Government measures in regard to gender justice and equality of women. The Committee was reconstituted

on 13 October, 1998. It presented a report on "Developmental Schemes for Rural Women" during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, two *ad-hoc* Committees, *viz.* one on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme and another Joint Committee on Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 were constituted. A brief account of the nature, purpose and activities of these committees is given below.

Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme

The Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (Lok Sabha), was constituted by the Speaker, Lok Sabha on 22 February, 1999, under provisions of Rule 254 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. The Committee headed by Shri S. Mallikarjuniah consisted of 20 Members initially. Subsequently, three more Members were nominated to the Committee on 9 March, 1999.

The functions of the Committee were to:—

(a) monitor and review periodically the performance and problems in implementation of the MPLAD Scheme (Lok Sabha);

(b) consider complaints of members of Lok Sabha in regard to the Scheme; and

(c) perform such other functions in respect of the MPLAD Scheme as may be assigned to it by the Speaker from time to time.

The term of the office of the Members of the Committee was not to exceed one year. The Committee, however, ceased to exist on 26 April, 1999, with the dissolution of the Twelfth Lok Sabha. During this period of approximately two months of its existence the Committee held two sittings. No report was, however, presented to the House.

The Joint Committee on the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998

The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 29 May, 1998 to replace the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 which was promulgated on 25 April, 1998. The Bill sought to further amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament on a motion moved in Lok Sabha by Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs on 9 July, 1998. Subsequently on 22 July, 1998, the Committee was constituted and Shri Shyam Bihari Mishra, MP was appointed as its Chairman on 6 August, 1998. The Committee consisted of 30 members with 20 from Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha including the Chairman.

The Committee held 6 sittings in all. It had briefings from the representatives of the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs and took evidence/heard views of various consumer forums, traders' associations, etc. on the various provisions of the Bill. The Committee had also invited comments from State Governments/Bar Associations/Consumer Forums/Industrialists, etc. on various provisions of the Bill. The Committee during its term, had a study tour of four places *viz.* Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad and Bangalore.

As per the term of the constitution of the Committee, the report of the Committee was required to be presented to the House by the last day of the first week of the Winter Session of Parliament during November-December, 1998. However, a Motion seeking extension of time for presentation of report of the Committee upto 23 December, 1998, was moved by the Chairman on 4 December, 1998. The Committee were, however, granted extension of time only upto 9 December, 1998.

On 4 December, 1998, the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs made a statement on the floor of the House that the Government would bring a comprehensive Bill with more stringent provisions. While taking note of it the Committee further observed that there was paucity of time in studying the voluminous suggestions, formulate opinion and amend the Bill within the stipulated time (*i.e.* by 9 December, 1998 upto which extension of time was granted by the House to the Committee to present the report). The Committee, therefore, returned the Bill to the House as it was in the form of a Report without making any recommendations. The Report was presented to the House on 9 December, 1998.

STATEMENT 49

Activities of Parliamentary Committees during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Committee	1998-99
1	2
(i) Financial Committees	
Committee on Estimates	
No. of Reports presented	5 (Original : 4 Action Taken : 1)
No. of sittings held	9
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	11.55
No. of pages of material studied	6,347
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	53
Committee on Public Accounts	
No. of Reports presented	11 (Original : 5 Action Taken : 6)
No. of sittings held	26
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	48.20
No. of pages of material studied	7,729
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	5
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	52
Committee on Public Undertakings	
No. of Reports presented	6 (Original : 3 Action Taken : 3)
No. of sittings held	21
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	27.15

(Contd.)

1	2
No. of pages of material studied	7,200
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	9
(ii) Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	
No. of Reports presented	9 (Original : 4 Action Taken : 5)
No. of sittings held	19
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	31.15
No. of pages of material studied	5,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	1
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	33
(iii) Departmentally related Standing Committees	
Committee on Agriculture	
No. of Reports presented	22 (Original : 11 Action Taken : 11)
No. of sittings held	30
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	65.55
No. of pages of material studied	15,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	18

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on Communications	
No. of Reports presented	15 (Original : 11 Action Taken : 4)
No. of sittings held	40
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	68.00
No. of pages of material studied	2,600
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	3
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	28
Committee on Defence	
No. of Reports presented	8 (Original : 6 Action Taken : 2)
No. of sittings held	20
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	49.15
No. of pages of material studied	6,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	2
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	25
Committee on Energy	
No. of Reports presented	19 (Original : 10 Action Taken : 9)
No. of sittings held	36
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	55.00
No. of pages of material studied	5,455
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	4
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	25

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on External Affairs	
No. of Reports presented	4 (Original : 2 Action Taken : 2)
No. of sittings held	23
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	46.10
No. of pages of material studied	4,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	6
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	10
Committee on Finance	
No. of Reports presented	21 (Original : 13 Action Taken : 8)
No. of sittings held	36
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	112.15
No. of pages of material studied	3,693
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	12
Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	
No. of Reports presented	10 (Original : 7 Action Taken : 3)
No. of sittings held	26
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	51.30
No. of pages of material studied	3,716

(Contd.)

1	2
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	4
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	29
Committee on Labour and Welfare	
No. of Reports presented	11 (Original : 6 Action Taken : 5)
No. of sittings held	17
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	38.20
No. of pages of material studied	3,921
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	2
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	22
Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	
No. of Reports presented	12 (Original : 6 Action Taken : 6)
No. of sittings held	25
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	37.45
No. of pages of material studied	5,399
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	20

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on Railways	
No. of Reports presented	3 (Original : 2 Action Taken : 1)
No. of sittings held	40
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	78.00
No. of pages of material studied	8,795
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	7
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	21
Committee on Urban and Rural Development	
No. of Reports presented	29 (Original : 13 Action Taken : 16)
No. of sittings held	48
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	81.00
No. of pages of material studied	16,824
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	3
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	14
(iv) Other Standing Committees	
Committee on Petitions	
No. of Reports* presented	2 (Original : 2)
No. of sittings held	10
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	18.20
No. of pages of material studied	3,140
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	7

*Action taken reports are not prepared separately by this Committee.

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee of Privileges	
No. of Reports presented	1 (Original :1)
No. of sittings held	13
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	15.52
No. of pages of material studied	-
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil
Rules Committee	
No. of Reports* presented	Nil
No. of sittings held	Nil
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	Nil
No. of pages of material studied	Nil
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil
General Purposes Committee	
No. of Reports** presented	-
No. of sittings held	1
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	1.20
No. of pages of material studied	130
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil

*Action taken reports are not prepared separately by this Committee.
**The Committee do not present any report, only minutes of meeting(s) are prepared.

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on Subordinate Legislation	
No. of Reports presented	4 (Original : 3 Action Taken : 1)
No. of sittings held	7
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	6.30
No. of pages of material studied	3,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	8
Committee on Government Assurances	
No. of Reports presented	4 (Original : 4)
No. of sittings held	10
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	10.05
No. of pages of material studied	31,000
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	16
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	
No. of Reports presented	3 (Original : 3)
No. of sittings held	3
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	3.10
No. of pages of material studied	-
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	-
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	-

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	
No. of Reports presented	3 (Original : 2 Action Taken : 1)
No. of sittings held	6
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	5.45
No. of pages of material studied	1,068
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	11
Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House	
No. of Reports presented	1 (Original : 1)
No. of sittings held	1
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	0.20
No. of pages of material studied	7 applications from Members of 12th Lok Sabha in 1998
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	-
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	-
Business Advisory Committee	
No. of Reports presented	10 (Original :10)
No. of sittings held	15
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	11.22
No. of pages of material studied	-

(Contd.)

1	2
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil
Railway Convention Committee	
No. of Reports presented	3 (Original : 2 Action Taken : 1)
No. of sittings held	9
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	10.15
No. of pages of material studied	425
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	13
Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	
No. of Reports presented	1 (Original : 1)
No. of sittings held	6
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	4.30
No. of pages of material studied	1180
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil

(Contd.)

1	2
Committee on Empowerment of Women	
No. of Reports presented	1 (Original : 1)
No. of sittings held	10
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	14.35
No. of pages of material studied	4135
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	2
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil
Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	
No. of Reports presented	Nil
No. of sittings held	2
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	3.00
No. of pages of material studied	300
No. of Sub-Committees/ Study Groups constituted	Nil
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	Nil
Joint Committee on Essential Commodities (Amendment)Bill, 1998	
No. of Reports presented	1 (Original : 1)
No. of sittings held	6
Duration of sittings (in hrs.-mts.)	9.00
No. of pages of material studied	6,500
No. of Establishments/ Organisations/places visited by the Committee	4

10

PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIA, ETC.

This Chapter provides a brief resume of some of the important Parliamentary Conferences, Seminars, Symposia and Meetings held in India and abroad during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha alongwith a brief outline of their nature and purpose.

Conferences, Seminars, etc. at the National Level

Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India : The practice of having a Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India was a necessary adjunct to the birth of the Central Legislative Assembly under the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919. The first such Conference was held at Delhi on 14 September 1921 under the Chairmanship of the Speaker of the Central Legislative Assembly, Sir Frederick Whyte. The Third Presiding Officers Conference held at Delhi in December 1923, adopted a resolution defining the object of such Conferences 'as to secure the appropriate coordination of parliamentary procedure throughout India'.

The Conferences of Presiding Officers have generally been convened annually since 1946. Since 1950, these are being held in different State capitals by rotation. Earlier, these were used to be held at either Delhi or Shimla. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is usually the Chairman of the Presiding Officers' Conference. The agenda for the Conference is decided by a Standing Committee of Presiding Officers appointed by the Chairman of the Conference on the basis of topics suggested for discussion by the Presiding Officers of State Legislatures. Besides the issues relating to parliamentary procedure, other matters of common interest to Legislatures are also discussed at such Conferences.

As many as 62 such Conferences have been held so far. The 62nd Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India was held in New Delhi from 22 to 24 September 1998. The Speaker, Lok Sabha and Chairman of the Conference, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi presided over the Conference. The Conference hosted by the Parliament was attended by almost all the Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies in India. The Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptullah also attended the Conference.

The Conference discussed the following points on the Agenda:

(i) Need to review the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution; and

(ii) Need for procedural reforms and better management of the time of the House.

Symposium on "Electoral Reforms" : The 62nd Conference of Presiding Officers was followed by a Symposium on "Electoral Reforms" on 24 September 1998. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi presided over the Symposium and delivered the Opening Address. The Presiding Officers of the Legislative Bodies in India and members of Parliament participated in the Symposium.

Conference of Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India : The Conference of Secretaries of Legislative bodies in India generally precedes the Presiding Officers' Conference. However, unlike the Presiding Officers' Conference which began its annual sessions in 1946, the first Conference of Secretaries was held in 1953.

The Secretaries-General of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha generally decide upon the agenda for such Conferences on the basis of topics suggested by the Secretaries of the State Legislatures. The last Conference of the Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India–the 42nd in the series was held at New Delhi on 21 September 1998 on the occasion of the 62nd Conference of the Presiding Officers.

Closing Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence

The Closing Ceremony of the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence was held on 15 August 1998 in the Central Hall, Parliament House, New Delhi. His Excellency, the President of India, Shri K.R. Narayanan addressed the Nation on this occasion. Foreign Diplomats/Dignitaries, Ministers, members of Parliament and other distinguished persons attended the function.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development and the Department of Culture presented a Commemorative Silver medalion and a CD Rom on Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion. The Lok Sabha Secretariat also brought out three publications on the occasion, namely : Honouring National Leaders: Statues and Portraits in Parliament Complex; Speakers of Lok Sabha; and India and Human Rights.

International Conferences, Seminars, etc.

Conferences of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) : The Inter-Parliamentary Union is an association of Parliamentary Groups constituted within the various national Parliaments for the purpose of promoting personal contacts between members of different Parliaments (constituted into National Groups) and to unite them in common action to secure and maintain full participation of their respective countries in the firm establishment and development of democratic institutions. There are four main organs of the Inter-Parliamentary Union *viz.* : the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, the Inter-Parliamentary Council, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat. The activities of the IPU are determined and guided by the Inter Parliamentary Council which is the plenary policy making body. Each National Group is represented on the Council by two delegates.

Before 1982, the IPU used to meet once a year. At its 131st session held in Rome in September 1982, the Inter-Parliamentary Council decided that the Union would hold two Conferences in a year, each of them being a self-contained meeting. And since 1982, two such Conferences are held every year.

The IPU meetings are generally held in the capitals of member countries. The National Group hosting the Conference usually bears the responsibility of organising the Conference.

The delegations to the IPU Conferences comprise members of the various Political Parties or Groups in national parliaments. Thus both the Government and the Opposition members from member countries get representation at the Conference. The Indian Parliamentary Group has been sending delegations to the IPU Conferences since 1949.

The 99th Inter-Parliamentary Conference was held in Windhoek (Namibia) from 6 to 11 April, 1998. A 9 member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended the same. The Conference mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the following subjects:

(i) The prevention of conflicts and the restoration of peace and trust in countries emerging from war; the return of refugees to their countries of origin; the strengthening of democratic processes and the hastening of reconstruction;

(ii) Action to combat HIV/AIDS in view of its devastating human, economic and social impact;

(iii) Foreign Debt as a factor limiting the integration of the third world countries into the process of globalisation; and

(iv) The situation in Kosovo–Measures to ensure a lasting and peaceful solution to the crisis.

Besides, the Conference held the General Debate on the Political, Economic and Social situation in the World.

The 100th Inter-Parliamentary Conference was held in Moscow (Russian Federation) from 6 to 12 September 1998. A 12-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended the same. The Conference mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the following subjects:

(i) Strong action by national parliaments in the year of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights in the 21st Century;

(ii) Water : the means required to preserve, manage and make the best use of this essential resource for sustainable development.

(iii) Action to combat the consumption and illicit trafficking of drugs and organised crime; and

(iv) International Humanitarian Law, International Criminal Court and anti-personnel mines.

Besides, the Conference held the General Debate on the Political, Economic and Social situation in the World.

The 101st Inter-Parliamentary Conference was held at Brussels (Belgium) from 10 to 16 April, 1999. A 15-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended the same. The Conference mainly discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the following subjects:—

(i) Parliamentary action to encourage all countries to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) prohibiting all nuclear testing, to encourage universal and non-discriminatory nuclear non-proliferation measures and to work towards the eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons;

(ii) The problem of metropolitan areas; a global challenge to which parliamentarians must respond in terms of urban civilisation and democracy; and

(iii) Writing off the government debt of heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC's)

Besides, the Conference held the General Debate on the Political Economic and Social Situation in the World.

The Inter-Parliamentary Conference on "Attaining the World Food Summit's objectives through a sustainable development strategy" The Inter Parliamentary Union with the support of the Food and Agricultural Organisation organised a Conference on attaining the World Food Summit's objectives through a sustainable development strategy at Rome (Italy) from 29 November to 2 December, 1998. The Conference was a parliamentary follow-up to the commitments undertaken by the States at the 1996 Rome World Food Summit. A 4-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha attended the above Conference.

The Conference mainly discussed and adopted declarations on the following subjects :—

(i) How to achieve food security;

(ii) Dual demands : producing enough food while maintaining the resource base; and

(iii) Access to food : poverty eradication, safety nets and food assistance.

Tripartite meeting of the Parliaments, Governments and Inter-Governmental Organisations: The Second tripartite meeting of Parliaments, Governments and Inter-Governmental Organisations was held at New York from 30 to 31 March, 1999. It was organised by the IPU with the support of the UN Division for Social Policy and Development and the UNDP with the objective of taking stock of the action taken by the Parliaments since the Social Development Summit held at Copenhagen (Denmark) in 1994.

Shri P. Upendra, MP from India was one of the seven parliamentarians from various continents who attended the above meeting. Shri Upendra was elected the Chairman of this meeting.

Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA): The CPA is an association of Commonwealth Parliamentarians who, irrespective of gender, race, religion or culture, are united by a community of interests, respect for the rule of law and the rights and freedoms of the individual citizen, and by pursuit of the positive ideals of parliamentary democracy.

These objectives are pursued by means of conferences, plenary and regional, the interchange of delegations, holding of seminars, issue of publications and periodicals, notably, 'The Parliamentarian', and through the Parliamentary Information and Reference Centre.

The Association was founded in 1911 as the **Empire Parliamentary Association.**

The Presiding Officers of the Legislative chambers of member-countries are normally the Branch Presidents of the CPA. The Clerk of the Legislature usually performs the duties of the Honorary Secretary of the Branch.

Plenary Conferences of the Association are held annually and they take place in a different Commonwealth country each year. Lasting about a week, these Conferences normally discuss matters of immediate concern to the Commonwealth.

The 44th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was held in Wellington, New Zealand from 16 to 23 October, 1998. A 27-member Indian delegation - 7 from the Indian Union CPA Branch (Parliament of India) and 20 from Indian States CPA Branches (State Legislatures) led by Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the Conference.

The following subjects were discussed at the Conference:—

(i) Globalisation–its impact on Commonwealth Governments and Parliaments;

(ii) How can Commonwealth Governments and Parliaments act as catalysts for good governance in the face of international economic pressures?

(iii) Maintaining accountability to Parliaments in an era of corporatization and privatization;

(iv) How can the Commonwealth assist in the protection and development of national and regional cultures in the face of increasingly globalised communications and entertainment?

(v) Empowerment of women in politics and decision-making: Can sustained gains be made?

(vi) Be it resolved : 'first past the post' is an undemocratic electoral system which should be replaced by some form of proportional representation; and

(vii) The Commonwealth's role in representing the interests of its more vulnerable members including overseas territories and the importance of foreign aid in alleviating poverty.

The Second North-East Region CPA Conference

The Second North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference was organised by the Mizoram CPA Branch at Aizawl from 22 to 23 April, 1998.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi inaugurated the Conference on 22 April, 1998 at Aizawl. The Welcome Address was delivered by the Speaker, Mizoram Legislative Assembly, Shri Vaivenga. The Chief Minister of Mizoram, Shri Lalthanhawla, and the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Gopalan were also present on the occasion.

In all, 48 delegates from Assam, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura State CPA Branches attended the Conference.

The following subjects were discussed in the Conference:—

(i) Fifty years of India's Independence : Its impact upon the North-East Region; and

(ii) Privileges and immunities of the MPs and MLAs under articles 105 and 194 respectively: Their ramification in the smooth transaction of the Business of the House.

The Third North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference: The Third North-East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference was organised by the Manipur CPA Branch at Imphal from 16 to 19 May, 1999.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi inaugurated the Conference on 17 May, 1999 in the Chamber of the Manipur Legislative Assembly, Imphal. The Welcome Address was delivered by Shri K. Babudhon Singh, Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly. Shri W. Nipamacha Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur; Shri Ganesh Kutum, Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly and Shri Z. Lohe, Speaker, Nagaland Legislative Assembly also addressed the delegates on the occasion.

In all, 51 delegates from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura State CPA Branches attended the Conference. Shri R.C. Tripathi, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha and Dr.A.K. Pandey, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat also attended the Conference.

The following subjects were discussed in the Conference:—

(i) The root causes for emergence of regionalism and unrest in North East Region; and

(ii) Role of North-East Region CPA in forging cooperation and understanding amongst the North Eastern States is crucial for integrated development of the Region.

Tenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar

The Tenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar was held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada from 21 to 28 May, 1998.

Shri Mukul Wasnik, MP attended the Seminar as a delegate from the Indian Union CPA Branch (Parliament of India). Apart from him, five delegates from the Indian

State CPA Branches, *viz.*, the Speaker, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Shri Y. Ramakrishnudu; the Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly, Shri Ganesh Kutum; the Speaker, Orissa Legislative Assembly, Shri Chintamani Dyan Samantara; the Speaker, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, Shri P.T.R. Palanivel Rajan; and the Deputy Speaker, Delhi Legislative Assembly, Chaudhary Fateh Singh also attended the Seminar.

Workshop on "The Role of the Opposition"

A Workshop on "The Role of the Opposition" was organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, at London from 8 to 10 June, 1998.

Shri P.A. Sangma, MP and Shri G.C. Malhotra, the then Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, attended the Workshop as delegates from the Parliament of India. Shri P.A. Sangma, MP introduced and chaired the sessions on "The Legislative function", and "The Opposition in De-centralised Democracies".

Joint Colloquium on "Parliamentary Supremacy and Judicial Independence: Towards a Commonwealth Model"

A Joint Colloquium on "Parliamentary Supremacy and Judicial Independence Towards a Commonwealth Model" was organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in conjunction with the Commonwealth Lawyers' Association, the Commonwealth Legal Education Association and the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association at Latimer House, Buckinghamshire, UK from 15 to 19 June, 1998.

Shri E. Ahmed, MP attended the Colloquium as a delegate from the Parliament of India.

The Colloquium discussed the following subjects on the Agenda :

(i) Preserving Judicial and Parliamentary Independence;

(ii) Paliament and the Judiciary;

(iii) Role of Non-Judicial and Non-Parliamentary Institutions;

(iv) Relations with the Executive; and

(v) Judges, Parliamentarians and the Civil Society.

Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers

The Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers was held at Ottawa, Canada from 5 to 8 January, 1999. Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, Speaker, Lok Sabha, accompanied by Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, attended the meeting in his capacity as a co-opted member of the Standing Committee.

CPA Post-Election Seminar

A CPA Post-Election Seminar for members of the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 10 to12 February, 1999. Shri P.A.Sangma, MP attended the Seminar as a member of the CPA Resource Team for the Seminar.

CPA Wilton Park Conference

A CPA Wilton Park Conference on "Parliamentary Democracy; Is there a Perfect Model ?" organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in cooperation with Wilton Park (an executive agency of the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office), was held in West Sussex, UK from 22 to 26 February, 1999. Shri P. Shiv Shanker, MP attended the Conference as a delegate from Parliament of India.

CPA Workshop for Nigerian Parliamentary Staff

A Workshop for the Nigerian Federal and State Parliamentary Staff was held in Abuja, Nigeria from 17 to 21 May, 1999. A team of officials from UK, Canada, Australia, India, Zimbabwe and Kenya addressed the participants on the occasion. Shri G.C. Malhotra, the then Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat attended the Workshop and addressed the participants.

The 6th General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment and Development was held at Guilin (China) from 14 to 18 October, 1998 at the invitation of the National Peoples" Congress of China. A 5-member Indian delegation attended the Conference. The Conference mainly

discussed and adopted Declarations/Resolutions on the following subjects:

(i) Relations between tourism development and environmental and resources protection;

(ii) Principles and strategies for a sustainable development of tourism; and

(iii) Promotion of a sustainable development of tourism through enhanced international cooperation.

Statement 50 gives a tabular account of various Parliamentary Conferences held in India and abroad during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha and attended by the Indian Parliamentary Delegations.

Statement 51 provides details regarding visits of Indian Parliamentary Delegations abroad as well as Parliamentary Delegations which visited India during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 50

Parliamentary Conferences/Meetings

Sl.No.	Name of Conference/Meeting	Venue	Date	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
	A. Indian			
1.	Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies In India	New Delhi	22–24 Sept. 1998	
2.	Conference of Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India	New Delhi	21 Sept. 1998	
	B. Inter-Parliamentary and Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences which Indian Delegations Attended			
	1. Conferences of IPU			
(i)	99th Inter-Parliamentary Conference	Windhoek (Namibia)	6–11 April, 1998	A 9-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended.
(ii)	100th Inter-Parliamentary Conference	Moscow (Russian Federation)	6–12 September, 1998	A 12-member Indian Parliamentary Parliamentary Delegation led by Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended.
(iii)	101st Inter-Parliamentary Conference	Brussels (Belgium)	10–16 April, 1999	A 15-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
2. Other Conferences held under the auspices of IPU				
(i)	Inter-Parliamentary Conference on attaining the World Food Summit's objectives through a sustainable development strategy.	Rome (Italy)	29 November–2 December, 1998	A 4-member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Dr.(Smt.) Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairperson, Rajya Sabha, attended.
(ii)	Tripartite meeting to take stock of the action taken by Parliaments since the World Summit for Social Development(WSSD) in Copenhagen in 1994.	New York (USA)	30-31 March, 1999	Shri P. Upendra, MP attended, he was also elected Chairman of the meeting.
3. Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association				
	44th CPA Conference.	Wellington (New Zealand)	16–23 October, 1998	A 27-member Indian delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi attended.
4.	Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers.	Ottawa (Canada)	5–8 January, 1999	Shri G.M.C. Balayogi, Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the meeting as a co-opted member of the Standing Committee.
5. CPA Seminars				
(i)	Tenth CPA Seminar.	Charlottetown (Canada)	21–28 May, 1998	A 6-member Indian delegation from Parliament and State Legislatures attended.
(ii)	Post-election Seminar for members of the Trinidad and Tobago,Parliament.	Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)	10–12 February, 1999	Shri P.A. Sangma, MP attended as a delegate from Parliament of India.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
6. Other Conferences/Workshops held under IPU & CPA				
(i)	Workshop on 'The Role of the Opposition'.	London	8–10 June, 1998	Shri P. A. Sangma, MP and Shri G. C. Malhotra, the then Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha attended as Delegates from the Parliament of India.
(ii)	Joint Colloquium on "Parliamentary Supremacy and Judicial Independence: Towards a Commonwealth Model"	Buckinghamshire (UK)	15–19 June, 1998	Shri E. Ahmed, MP attended as a delegate from Parliament of India.
(iii)	The CPA Wilton Park Conference on "Parliamentary Democracy: Is there a Perfect Model ?"	West Sussex (UK)	22–26 February, 1999	Shri P. Shiv Shanker, MP attended as a delegate from Parliament of India.
7.	The 6th General Assembly of The Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians.	Guilin (China)	14–18 October, 1998	A 5-member Indian Parliamentary delegation attended.
8.	Meetings of the Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments.	Windhock (Namibia)	6–11 April,1998	Shri S. Gopalan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Shri R.C. Tripathi, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha attended.
		Moscow (Russian Federation)	6–12 September, 1998	-do-
		Brussels (Belgium)	10–16 April, 1998	Shri G.C.Malhotra, the then Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha, attended.
9.	Meetings of the Society of Clerks at-the-Table in Commonwealth Parliaments.	Wellington (New Zealand)	20-21 October, 1998	Shri R.C. Tripathi, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha and Shri S. Gopalan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha attended.

(Contd.)

STATEMENT 51

Exchange of Parliamentary Delegations

Sl. No.	Country/Place of Visit	Date	Composition
1	2	3	4
1998			
(a) Visits of Indian Parliamentary Delegations Abroad			
1.	Turkey	27 June - 2 July, 1998	12- member delegation
2.	Iraq	20-26 August, 1998	11-member delegation
3.	Morocco	6-13 October, 1998	12-member delegation
4.	Russia	12-17 November, 1998	13-member delegation
(b) Parliamentary Delegations Visiting India			
1.	Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea	7-13 April, 1998	7-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Yang Hyong Sop, Speaker of the Supreme People's Assembly of DPR Korea.
2.	Venezuela	5-12 July, 1998	2-member delegation led by the First Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies of Venezuala, Deputy Zulio Castilo.
3.	Russian Federation	13-16 September, 1998	7-member delegation led by Mr. Vladimir Petrovich Lukin, Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the Russian State Duma.
4.	Kuwait	27 September-1 October, 1998	32-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Talal Mubarak Al-Ayyar, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Kuwait.
5.	Finland	13-19 November, 1998	12-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Mikko Pesala, Deputy Speaker of the Finnish Parliament.
6.	Japan	23-25 November, 1998	9-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Kozo Watanabe, Vice-Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
7.	Mongolia	28 November - 4 December, 1998	15-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. R. Gonchigdorj, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia (Speaker of the Parliament).
8.	Portugal	15-22 December, 1998	10-member delegation led by H.E. Dr. Antonio De Almeida Santos, President of the Portuguese Parliament.
9.	Hungary	8-13 March, 1999	10-member delegation led by H.E. Dr. Janos Ader, Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary.
10.	Czech Republic	8-13 March, 1999	13-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Vaclav Klaus, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.
11.	Vietnam	13-20 March, 1999	9-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Vu Dinh Cu, Vice Chairman of the National Assembly of Vietnam.
12.	Croatia	27 March- 3 April, 1999	16-member delegation led by H.E. Mr. Vladimir Seks, Vice-President (Then Acting President) of the Parliament of Croatia.
13.	Russian-Indo Friendship Group	18-22 April, 1999	5-member delegation led by H.E. Dr. Anatoly Ivanovich Lukyanov, Chairman of the Committee on Legislation, Court and Legal Reforms of the State Duma.

11

VISITORS TO PARLIAMENT

All persons other than members of the House are regarded as strangers, with the exception of the Officers of the House and staff on duty. During the period of sessions of Lok Sabha, admission of strangers to those portions of the House which are not reserved for the exclusive use of the members is regulated in accordance with the orders made by the Speaker. At the time of sitting of the House, the Chamber is reserved for the exclusive use of members and strangers are not permitted therein. The other portions of the House where strangers may be permitted to go under specified conditions are the Galleries and the Central Hall.

Admission of strangers to the various Galleries of Lok Sabha is regulated in accordance with the rules made in this behalf under the directions of the Speaker. Admission to the Galleries is possible by visitor cards issued for specific purpose.

Speaker's Gallery: This Gallery is intended for persons who are Presiding Officers of State Legislatures and their wives and Presidents of All India Political Parties in case they cannot be accommodated in the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery.

Distinguished Visitors' Gallery: This Gallery is intended for persons who are wives/husbands of sitting members of Parliament, ex-members of Parliament, members and Secretaries of State Legislatures, Judges, Vice-Chancellors and high officials of the Government of India and State Governments, men of standing in public life, such as Presidents of All India Political Parties and Distinguished Visitors from foreign countries.

Special Gallery: This Gallery is meant for the family members (sons, daughters, father and mother) of members of Parliament.

Diplomatic Gallery: This Gallery is for the use of foreign diplomats.

Public Gallery: This Gallery is meant for the use of the general public.

Rajya Sabha Gallery: This Gallery is meant for the use of members of Rajya Sabha who may like to watch the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.

Official Gallery: This Gallery is intended for officials of the Government of India and in certain cases for officials of the Government of States, whose presence is required in connection with the business before the House.

Special Box: This is reserved for the family and guests of the President, Governors of States, Heads of States, Prime Ministers and Crown Princes of foreign countries, foreign Parliamentary Delegations and other high personages *e.g.* ex-Presidents and ex-Governors General, Chief Justice of India, Chief Ministers of States, etc.

During the sessions of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the total attendance recorded at different Galleries was 48,369. Statement 52 shows session-wise break-up of the number of visitors to the different Galleries during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

During the periods when Lok Sabha is not in session arrangements are made to take the visitors round the Parliament House. The visitors are taken inside the building in convenient batches on the authority of a sight-seers' permit issued by the Reception Office on the recommendation of members of Parliament. A total of 9,996 sight-seers visited the Parliament during inter-session periods of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Foreign delegations and dignitaries from Bulgaria, Canada, Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Kyrghyz Republic, Mauritius, Russia, Sudan, USA, Zambia and Zimbabwe visited Parliament during the Twelfth Lok Sabha as per details shown in Statement 53.

STATEMENT 52

Attendance in Different Galleries During Twelfth Lok Sabha (Session-wise)

Session	Public Gallery	Distinguished Visitors' Gallery	Speaker's Gallery	Special Gallery	Rajya Sabha Gallery	Official Gallery	Diplomatic Gallery	Special Box	Total (Session-wise)
First Session	3,287	511	179	290	196	527	14	-	5,004
Second Session									
Part I	5,203	399	296	355	107	1,431	6	-	7,797
Part II	9,497	683	745	368	45	2,030	9	7	13,384
Third Session	6,772	388	460	187	18	1,454	16	6	9,301
Fourth Session									
Part I	7,277	409	578	185	139	1,357	2	41	9,988
Part II	1,528	389	284	177	173	314	23	7	2,895
Total	33,564 (69.42)	2,779 (5.75)	2,542 (5.25)	1,562 (3.22)	678 (1.40)	7,113 (14.70)	70 (0.14)	61 (0.12)	48,369

Note: Part I and II refer to the first and second parts of the Budget Sessions.
Figures in bracket show percentage to total visitors.

STATEMENT 53

Foreign Delegations/Dignitaries who visited Parliament House during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Visiting Delegation/ Dignitary	Date of Visit	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Dr. Saadoun Hammadi, Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly and four other members.	26.5.1998	Called on the Speaker.
2.	A 5-member Public Accounts Committee delegation of the Zambian Parliament led by Mr. M.S. Nawa, M.P.	31.5.1998	Called on the Speaker. Shown round the Central Hall of Parliament and the Parliament Library.
3.	Mr. Preston Manning, Leader of Opposition of Canadian Parliament accompanied by Mr. Gurmant Grewal, M.P. and Mr. Bob Mills, M.P.	3.8.1998	Called on the Speaker and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha.
4.	Mr. Jean Claude De L'Estrac, a Senior Journalist and Former Minister of External Affairs of Mauritius	9.10.1998	Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and the Central Hall of Parliament.
5.	A 3-member Sudanese Parliamentary team lead by Dr. Salab Eldin Mirgahani M. A. Gaili, Deputy Chairman, Federal Relations Committee of Sudanese Parliament.	12.10.1998	Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and the Central Hall of Parliament.
6.	Mr. Szilard Sarvari, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Education of Hungarian Parliament	18.11.1998	Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and the Central Hall of Parliament.
7.	An 8-member Vietnamese Parliamentary Delegation on Population and Development led by Mr. Le Quoc Khanh, Vice Chairperson.	15.12.1998	Called on the Speaker. Also watched the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.
8.	Mr. Justice A.R. Gubbay, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe	4.1.1999	Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and the Central Hall of Parliament.

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4
9.	Judge Mr. Meir Shamgar, Former President of the Supreme Court of Israel accompanied by Judge Mr. Michal Rubinstein	17.2.1999	Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, the Central Hall and the Parliament Library.
10.	Mr. George Ganchev, M.P. and Chairman of the Bulgarian Parliamentary Group for Friendship with India	22.2.1999	Called on the Speaker.
11.	A 3-member team of Kyrghyz Republic led by Mr. Tevefayev	24.2.1999	Called on the Speaker. Also watched the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.
12.	A 21-member team led by Mr. Thomson, Governor of Wisconson State of USA	26.2.1999	Called on the Speaker. Also watched the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.
13.	A 10-member delegation of Committee on Health Care of Russian State Duma (Lower House)	5.3.1999	Had a meeting with the Chairman and Members of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development in Parliament House.
14.	An 8-member U.S. Congressional delegation led by Congressman R. Gephardt, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives	31.3.1999	Called on the Speaker. Shown round the Chambers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and the Central Hall of Parliament.

12

ORIENTATION AND TRAINING IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES: BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

With a view to ensuring smooth, efficient and prompt services to Parliament and State Legislatures, the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) was set up on 1 January 1976, as an integral part of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The Bureau is designed to provide institutionalised opportunities for systematic training, orientation and problem and practice-oriented studies in the various disciplines of parliamentary institutions, processes and procedures, to all those responsible for the running of the democratic system–the legislators, the policy-makers, the administrators and various other functionaries at different levels.

Apart from organising Training and Refresher Courses for officers of Parliament and State Legislature Secretariats, and conducting Appreciation Courses for senior and middle level officers of the Government of India and Probationers of various All-India and Central Services, the Bureau conducts Orientation Programmes for newly-elected members of Parliament and State Legislatures to provide them opportunities to (i) discuss various aspects of parliamentary processes and procedures; and (ii) familiarise themselves more closely with the operational mechanics of parliamentary institutions. The usefulness of these programmes is evidenced by the fact that several State Legislatures have organised such programmes for their legislators in association with the Bureau. For example, the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha had organised an orientation programme for its newly elected members in co-operation with the Bureau in 1985, 1989, 1994 and also in February 1999.

During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Bureau organised six Orientation Programmes for the newly-elected members of Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, and conducted 111 programmes including Appreciation and Refresher Courses, Attachment Programmes, Training Courses, International Programmes, Study Visits, etc. covering Probationers of various All-India and Central Services Officers of the Government of India, and Officers of State Legislature Secretariats. Two Computer Training Programmes were also organised for officers and staff of the Secretariat and doctors of the Medical Centre at Parliament House Annexe.

On a request from Zimbabwean Parliament, a Study Visit was organised from 24 to 31 August, 1998 for the Speaker of the Parliament of Zimbabwe H.E. Mr. Cyril E. Mdebele along with Mr. L. Ndlouv, Principal Clerk and Miss Shelter Kasirori, Secretary to Speaker. The delegation had an insight into the functioning of our Committee System and its support services, Parliament Library and Information Service and the Office of the Speaker. During the Study Visit the delegates were also briefed about Indian agriculture and agro-based industries.

Another visit was organised for a South African Delegation consisting of three members of Parliament of South Africa, and one academician and one officer from the 'National Democratic Institute for International Affairs' on a Study Tour to India from 24 to 29 January, 1999.

Every year, the Bureau organises two International Programmes. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, a Parliamentary Internship Programme for the foreign parliamentary officials and a Training Programme in Legislative Drafting for foreign parliamentary/ Government officials under the Colombo Plan and Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan (SCAAP) were organised by the Bureau.

The Parliamentary Internship Programme which is of seven weeks duration is designed to acquaint the participants with the environment, culture, traditions and working of the parliamentary institutions in India and provides opportunities to the participants to exchange ideas in the context of their own experiences

in their legislatures. The Fourteenth Parliamentary Internship Programme conducted during the Twelfth Lok Sabha attracted a record number of 23 participants from as many as 13 Afro-Asian countries which also included 2 women members of Parliament from Turkmenistan.

The training programme in Legislative Drafting which is of ten weeks duration, is designed to equip the participants with the basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation so that they can render valuable assistance to the legislators when called upon to do so. As many as nine participants from eight Afro-Asian countries participated in the Fourteenth International Programme in Legislative Drafting. One Officer from Lok Sabha Secretariat and two Officers from Assam Legislative Assembly also participated in the programme.

During the period of Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Bureau also successfully organised a number of Study Visits from India and abroad. The Bureau also organised as many as 13 Training Programmes for the Officers and Staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat and those of the State Legislature Secretariats.

Officers are also nominated for training abroad by the Bureau. Two Officers of the Secretariat were nominated for the Sixty-fourth Annual Conference of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in Amsterdam.

The Bureau also nominates officers for training at different institutions in India. Eight Officers were nominated for training programmes on (a) Management in Government and (b) Communication Skills for managerial effectiveness during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Study Visits are also arranged by the Bureau for students from colleges, schools and other institutions so as to enable them to have a glimpse of the working of Parliament. During the period of Twelfth Lok Sabha, the Bureau organised 53 Study Visits comprising 1,864 participants.

Statement 54 details various programmes and courses organised by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training during the period of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT 54

Details of Orientation Programmes, Computer Training Programmes, Appreciation Courses, Training/Attachment Programmes, International Programmes, Study visits, etc. during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Programmes	Date of commence-ment	Date of termi-nation	No. of parti-cipants
1	2	3	4	5
I.	**Orientation Programme for Members of Parliament/ State Legislative Assemblies**			
1.	Members and Officers of Mizoram Legislative Assembly at Aizawl	19.1.1998	21.1.1998	58
2.	Members of Assam Legislative Assembly and Senior Officers of the Government of Assam and State Assembly Secretariat at Dispur on the functioning of Departmentally Related Standing Committee System	6.4.1998	--	200

(Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Newly-elected Members of Lok Sabha	9.7.1998	22.7.1998	170
4.	Members of Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly at Shimla	16.9.1998	18.9.1998	40
5.	Newly-elected Members of Lok Sabha and Members of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly at the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad	29.10.1998	30.10.1998	105
6.	Newly-elected Members of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly at Bhopal	16.2.1999	18.2.1999	350
7.	Members of the Mizoram Legislative Assembly at New Delhi.	21.4.1999	23.4.1999	30
II.	**Computer Training Programmes**			
1.	Computer Training Programme on UNIPLEX Software for the Officers/Staff of Lok Sabha Secretariat	23.2.1998	27.2.1998	40
2.	Computer Training Programme Windows-95 and Lotus-96 for the Officers of LARRDI Service, Conference Branch and Doctors from the Medical Centre, Parliament House Annexe	1.9.1998	16.9.1998	40
III.	**Appreciation Courses for Probationers of All India and Central Services/ Officers of Government of India**			
1.	Indian Customs and Central Excise Service Probationers	29.12.1997	2.1.1998	46
2.	Probationers of (i) Indian Audit & Accounts Service and (ii) Indian Railway Stores Service	(i) 19.1.1998 (ii) 18.1.1999	23.2.1998 22.1.1999	43 21
3.	Probationers of Indian Administrative Service(IAS)	(i) 23.2.1998 (ii) 22.2.1999	27.2.1998 26.2.1999	78 57
4.	Probationers of (i) Indian Revenue Service and (ii) Indian Railway Traffic Service	2.3.1998	6.3.1998	50

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Probationers of (i) Indian Civil Accounts Service; (ii) Indian Defence Accounts Service; (iii) Indian P&T Finance and Accounts Service; and (iv) Indian Railways Accounts Service	20.4.1998	24.4.1998	59
6.	Probationers of (i) Senior Audit/ Accounts Officers from the Office of C&AG of India; and (ii) Indian Postal Service	20.7.1998	24.7.1998	60
7.	Probationers of Indian Forest Service	27.7.1998	31.7.1998	55
8.	Probationers of (i) Indian Railways Institute of Signal Engineering and Tele-Communication Service; (ii) Indian Information Service; (iii) Indian Defence Estate Service; and (iv) Indian Ordnance Factories Service	3.8.1998	7.8.1998	60
9.	Indian Foreign Service Probationers	17.8.1998	21.8.1998	13
10.	Probationers of Indian Police Service (IPS)	31.8.1998	2.9.1998	91
11.	Probationers of (i) Indian Ordnance Factories Service; (ii) Indian Railways Electrical Engineering Service; and (iii) Indian Customs and Central Excise Service	14.9.1998	18.9.1998	84
12.	Probationers of (i) Senior Audit/ Accounts Officers from the Office of C&AG of India; and (ii) Indian Railways Stores Service	14.12.1998	18.12.1998	53
13.	Probationers of Indian Revenue Service	8.3.1999	12.3.1999	36
14.	Probationers of Indian Railways Service of Electrical Engineers	19.4.1999	23.4.1999	45

1	2	3	4	5
IV.	**Training Programmes for the Officers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats**			
1.	Officers of Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat and Officers of Assam Government at Dispur on the functioning of Departmentally Related Standing Committees.	18.2.1998	20.2.1998	67
2.	Refresher Course for Reporters of Lok Sabha Secretariat	17.2.1998	27.2.1998	34
3.	Training classes in Stenography for candidates appearing in the Departmental Tests in Lok Sabha Secretariat	20.4.1998	8.5.1998	06
4.	Officials of Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat on the functioning of Departmentally Related Standing Committees	19.5.1998	20.5.1998	13
5.	Training classes in Stenography for candidates appearing in the Departmental Tests in Lok Sabha Secretariat	26.5.1998	19.6.1998	08
6.	Management Development Programme for Middle Level Officers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats	7.9.1998	11.9.1998	64
7.	Officers of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats on Reference and Information Service	14.9.1998	18.9.1998	84
8.	Training Course for Assistants/ Officers dealing with Questions/ Legislative and Budgetary Processes.	21.9.1998	25.9.1998	62
9.	Training Course for Editors/ Asstt. Editors/Translators/Hindi Assistants of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats	5.10.1998	9.10.1998	63

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Training Course for Senior Library Assistants/Junior Library Assistants (SLAs/JLAs) of Lok Sabha Secretariat and Librarians/ Dy. Librarians of State Legislature Secretariats	2.11.1998	6.11.1998	33
11.	Training classes in Stenography for candidates appearing in the Departmental Tests in Lok Sabha Secretariat	12.11.1998	27.11.1998	18
12.	Training Course for Officials working in the Departmentally Related Standing Committees of Lok Sabha and State Legislature Secretariats	16.11.1998	20.11.1998	28
13.	Training classes in Stenography in Hindi and English for the candidates appearing in the Departmental Tests in Lok Sabha Secretariat	4.1.1999	22.2.1999	6+7
V.	**Attachment Programme for Officers of State Legislature Secretariats**			
	Officers of Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat to study the functioning of various Branches of Lok Sabha Secretariat	15.3.1999	19.3.1999	8
VI.	**Attachment Programme for Members of Foreign Parliaments**			
1.	Speaker of the Parliament of Zimbabwe H.E. Mr. Syril E. Mdebele alongwith Mr. L. Ndlouv, Principal Clerk and Miss Shelter Kasirori, Secretary to Speaker to study the working of our Committee System and its support services, Parliament Library and Information Service and the Office of the Speaker. The delegates were also briefed about Indian Agriculture and Agro-based industries	24.8.1998	31.8.1998	2
2.	South African Delegation consisting of three members of Parliament of South Africa and one academician and one officer from the 'National Democratic Institute for International Affairs' on a Study Tour to India	24.1.1999	29.1.1999	3

1	2	3	4	5
VII.	**Attachment Programme for Foreign Participants**			
1.	Mr. W. B. D. Dasanayake Asstt. Secretary and Mr. Ronald Fernando, Asstt. Director, Parliament of Sri Lanka	17.12.1997	19.12.1997	2
2.	Mr. J. Dissanayake, Secretary to Chief Government Whip, Parliament of Sri Lanka	23.12.1997	2.1.1998	1
3.	Officers of Sri Lankan Parliament	19.1.1998	23.1.1998	4
4.	Foreign participants attending Training Programme at the Office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India	12.2.1998	—	22
5.	Foreign participants attending Training Programme on Audit of Social Service Sector at the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India	8.10.1998	9.10.1998	20
6.	Foreign participants from different countries attending Training Programme on Audit of Receipts at the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India	9.12.1998	10.12.1998	21
7.	Shri K. C. Munroop, Sergeant-At-Arms of the National Assembly of Mauritius, to study the Functioning of Watch & Ward of the Indian Parliament	1.3.1999	19.3.1999	1
VIII.	**Attachment of Fellows of the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies (ICPS), New Delhi**			
	ICPS Fellows with the Branches of Lok Sabha Secretariat	13.2.1998	27.2.1998	7
IX.	**International Training Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officials**			
1.	Fourteenth Parliamentary Internship Programme for Foreign Parliamentary Officials	23.9.1998	10.11.1998	23
2.	Fourteenth Training Programme in Legislative Drafting	18.11.1998	30.1.1999	12

1	2	3	4	5
X.	**Nominations for Training Abroad**			
	64th Annual Conference of IFLA in Amsterdam	12.8.1998	21.8.1998	2
XI.	**Nominations for Training under different Institutions in India**			
1.	**Programme on Management in Government for Middle Level Officers**			
	(i) Institute of Management in Government, Thiruvanantha-puram	8.12.1997	19.12.1997	2
	(ii) Anna Institute of Management in Government, Chennai	17.8.1998	28.8.1998	2
	(iii) Institute of Management in Government, Thiruvanan-thapuram	2.11.1998	14.11.1998	2
2.	**Programme on Communication Skills for Managerial Effectiveness**			
	Programme on 'Communication Skills in Managerial Effectiveness' held at the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad	13.7.1998	18.7.1998	2
3.	**Workshop on Barrier Free Environment**			
	Workshop on Barrier Free Environment, organised by the M/o Urban Affairs and Employment at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi	5.6.1998	6.6.1998	3
4.	**Orientation Programme in Translation**			
	Training Programme in Translation for employees of Lok Sabha Secretariat, organised by the Central Translation Bureau, New Delhi	22.6.1998	26.6.1998	3

13

PARLIAMENTARY MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

The Parliamentary Museum and Archives (PMA), set up by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in Parliament House Annexe, was inaugurated by Shri Rabi Ray, the then Speaker, Lok Sabha on 29 December 1989. The PMA has been set up with a view to preserving the past and the present for the future by protecting from the ravages of time and neglect all the precious records, historic documents and articles connected with the Constitution and the Parliament and through them to make the history and growth of Parliamentary Institutions and the political system better understood. The basic aim of PMA is to function as a treasure-house and research and communication centre.

At present, PMA has three distinct sections, *viz.* : (i) Parliamentary Museum, (ii) Parliamentary Archives, and (iii) Parliamentary Photographs and Films Section.

(i) Parliamentary Museum

In the current phase of its growth, the Parliamentary Museum is concentrating on acquisition and building of a comprehensive collection of rare objects, relics, art-work, models, paintings, parliamentary antiques and portraits of national leaders and proper preservation and display of all its holdings. The collections of the Museum are so planned and exhibited as to give an integrated look and to provide a ready record of the developments, achievements, experiences, ideas, persons and events. The Museum is further divided into three sectors, *viz.* (a) History of Parliament, (b) Parliaments of the world, and (c) State Legislatures.

At present, the Parliamentary Museum has models of 15 State legislature buildings of India and eight foreign Parliament buildings. Besides, blown-up colour photographs of 80 foreign Parliament buildings are also available in the Museum. The other interesting objects added to the collections of the Museum are the Gown and Wig worn by the erstwhile President of the Central Legislative Assembly, an oil painting of the inauguration of the Indian Round Table Conference in London, a chair used by the first Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, an original specimen of the seats used in the Princes' Chamber and personal articles of Shri G.V. Mavalankar, the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

The Museum has about 1018 stamps and 72 First Day Covers issued by Department of Posts from time to time and stamps of various other countries of the world, ashes of Mahatma Gandhi in a silver-bronze container and 61 gift items presented by various Parliamentary delegations, including a fragment of the Moon presented by a parliamentary delegation from the United States of America.

In future, the Museum proposes to undertake other tasks directed towards the dissemination of information about parliamentary institutions and the projection of a proper image of, and the encouragement of healthy respect for Parliament by stimulating interest in its growth, activities and achievements. The Parliamentary Museum will develop instructional programmes with the help of tapes, audio cassettes, slides, video cassettes, films, etc., for visitors and students of the history and working of parliamentary institutions; arrange lectures, film shows and periodic exhibitions; conduct tours, demonstrations, seminars, workshops and parliamentary festivals; arrange radio and television programmes based on its collections and displays; design, prepare and display in the form of easy-to-understand at-a-glance charts, graphs, diagrams, material and data concerning the history and growth of parliamentary institutions; make the Museum Galleries more useful and enjoyable to visit through the use of colour, sound, light, animation and other modern exhibition techniques, develop a store where one can by souvenirs like small replicas of Parliament House, illuminated models of Parliament House or its Chambers, portraits and plaster casts, plastic, wax or bronze figures of great parliamentarians; and take Parliament and parliamentary education to the common man through extension programmes and mobile touring exhibitions at different centres all over the country on appropriate occasions.

(ii) Parliamentary Archives

The Parliamentary Archives is mainly concerned with the acquisition, storage, systematic cataloguing and preservation of precious records, private papers of parliamentarians irrespective of their political affiliations, historical documents and other documentary materials by promotion and dissemination of research and other literary activities in the field of our system of nation-building. These records are open to scholars, private as well as official, for consultation to promote scholarly ventures in the sphere of parliamentary and democratic traditions, practices and institutions. Those wishing to hold their papers confidential for a specific number of years are provided with this facility. The Archives also acquires books on constitutional developments, parliamentary activities and books on and by former and present Speakers, members of Parliament and Secretaries-General for furtherance of the literary activities.

The Parliamentary Archives has a collection of 33,150 documents/private papers/correspondence of 61 eminent parliamentarians and freedom fighters on the working of Parliament and related matters. It also has a collection of 37 films, 106 video cassettes, 38 audio cassettes, 1539 spool tapes, 294 books on Constitution, parliamentarians and parliamentary activities. The Archives maintains an up-to-date record of the obituary references made in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Statement 55 provides the details of various items added to the PMA during Twelfth Lok Sabha *vis-a-vis* total collections.

(iii) Parliamentary Photographs and Films Section

This Section acquires, preserves, catalogues and displays the photographs concerning parliamentary activities including those relating to parliamentary delegations visiting India and foreign countries. It also caters to the needs of photographs of different Branches of Lok Sabha Secretariat and organises temporary exhibitions on different occasion.

Parliamentary Photographs and Films Section has acquired an up-to-date pictorial record of the activities of Parliament, and of eminent parliamentarians. At present the PMA has got a collection of 8,881 photographs.

Exhibitions Organised by the PMA

The PMA endeavours to organise Exhibitions on various themes depicting the ancient democratic heritage of India and growth and development of modern democratic institutions with the help of photographs, charts, diagrams, write-ups and quotations. During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, the following Exhibitions were organised for viewing at both national and international levels by the members of Parliament and other dignitaries, media persons and other visitors.

Exhibitions at National Level

1. **Democratic and Parliamentary Heritage of India:** The Exhibition was organised on the occasion of Orientation Programme for new members of the Twelfth Lok Sabha conducted by BPST in Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi between 9-10 July, 1998. It depicted the history, growth and working of parliamentary system from ancient periods for the information of new members. The main areas covered in the Exhibition were growth of modern democratic institutions in India, transfer of power, adoption of the Constitution, offices of the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister and Presiding Officers and activities of Parliament. Another interesting feature of the Exhibition was the the display of information management system for the use by members of Parliament, namely, the microfilming, audio-visual and computer system now in use in Lok Sabha Secretariat.

2. **Democracy at Work in India:** PMA had set up another Exhibition on the theme "Democracy at work in India" on the occasion of Presiding Officers' Conference from 22 to 25 September, 1998 at Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi. The Exhibition highlighted the working of democracy in India, federal structure of India and history of State Legislatures and their Presiding Officers.

International Exhibitions

3. **Indo-African Cooperation:** This was the first ever international Exhibition organised by the PMA. The Exhibition on "Indo-African Cooperation" was organised at the request of

Organisation of African Unity, (OAU) and with assistance of member-countries of the Organisation in Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi between from 10 to 19 June 1998. The Diplomatic Missions of OAU member countries in India displayed their handicraft items and photographs of their national leaders. PMA also highlighted the economic, trade and cultural ties of India with OAU countries with the help of charts, graphs, brief write-ups, photographs, press headlines and quotations from the Speeches/writings of eminent persons.

4. **History and Activities of Parliament of India:** It was a maiden attempt made by PMA to organised an Exhibition in any foreign country. The Exhibition was organised at the request of the State Duma (Lower House) of Russian Federation. The Exhibition was inaugurated by the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri G.M.C. Balayogi and the Speaker of the State Duma, Mr. Gennady Seleznyov on 12 November 1998 in the Inner Lobby of the State Duma, Moscow. The Exhibition continued upto 25 November 1998. It was a joint endeavour of the Parliament of India and the State Duma of Russia as part of the celebrations of Fifty Years of India's Independence.

Informative booklets prepared by the PMA in both English and Russian languages were presented to the visiting dignitaries, media persons and other visitors at the venue of the Exhibition. Besides, films on parliamentary practices and procedures prepared by Lok Sabha Secretariat were shown during the Exhibition.

STATEMENT 55

Items added to Parliamentary Museum & Archives during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

	Items	Added During the Twelfth Lok Sabha	Total Collection
	1	2	3
1.	Models		
	(a) Foreign Parliament buildings	Nil	8
	(b) States Legislature buildings	Nil	15
	(c) Other models	Nil	1
2.	Gifts/Items from		
	(a) Foreign countries	Nil	61
	(b) Indian States	Nil	63
3.	Audio-Cassettes		
	On Conferences/Seminars/ Interviews, etc.	Nil	38
4.	Video-Cassettes		
	(a) On Conferences/Seminars/ Interviews, etc.	Nil	106
	(b) Films	Nil	37

(Contd.)

1		2	3
5.	Spool-Tapes On Conferences	Nil	1539
6.	Photographs		
	(a) Different views of 80 foreign Parliament buildings	Nil	225
	(b) Parliamentary activities, eminent parliamentarians, etc.	377	8881
7.	Portraits		
	Portraits of eminent parliamentarians	7	27
8.	Books On/or by parliamentarians	43	294
9.	Commemorative Stamps/First-Day Covers		
	(a) First day covers	Nil	72
	(b) Stamps	Nil	1018
10.	Coins Commemorative Coins	Nil	9
11.	Citations	Nil	1
12.	Documents/private papers/ correspondence of eminent parliamentarians	5,200	33,150

14

EDITORIAL AND TRANSLATION SERVICE

Editorial and Translation Service is one of the largest and important functional services of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. Its primary responsibility is to cater to the translation needs of the entire Secretariat.

One of the most important functions of the Editorial and Translation Service is to prepare the official report of the proceedings of each sitting of Lok Sabha in the form of daily Lok Sabha Debates. It also prepares Indexes to debates. Besides, the Service prepares both the English and Hindi versions of Synopses of the daily proceedings of Lok Sabha.

Hindi versions of various publications of the Lok Sabha Secretariat are also prepared by this Service. It prepares Hindi version of various Reports, List of points, Memoranda, Questionnaire, Agenda Papers, Notices, Press Releases, etc. pertaining to various Parliamentary Committees. In addition to this, Hindi version of various Parliamentary papers like List of Business, List of Questions, Bulletins Part I and Part II, Lists of Amendments, Lists of Cut Motions, etc., for circulation to members of Parliament are also prepared by the Service to help them in performing their parliamentary duties effectively.

Lok Sabha Debates

At the centre of parliamentary activities is the Parliamentary Debates. The written authenticated record of the proceedings of the supreme representative body of the country is brought out by this Service. The Service brings out the following three versions of Lok Sabha Debates:

1. Original Version (or Floor Version)
2. English Version
3. Hindi Version

Of the three versions, original version is prepared by the Editorial Branch of the Service. It contains original English proceedings of the House in English and original Hindi proceedings in Hindi. This is the only authenticated version of the proceedings of the House. It is not printed. A copy of each day's debates of Lok Sabha, duly edited, is kept in Parliament Library for reference purposes. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 88 debates of Lok Sabha comprising 40,197 pages were edited.

The other two versions, namely, English and Hindi versions of debates, being brought out by the Service are printed and circulated among the members. The English version contains original English proceedings in English and English translation of original Hindi proceedings. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha 88 debates comprising 55,293 pages were translated and edited. Similarly, the Hindi version includes original Hindi proceedings in Hindi and Hindi translation of original English proceedings. 88 debates comprising 53,274 pages were translated and edited.

Lok Sabha Debates on Internet

The Service started putting the original version of debates on Internet from the Budget Session (Part-II) of the Eleventh Lok Sabha. The first edited original version of debate which was put on Internet was that of 30 April 1997. The debates are available on the system for on line retrieval at the following address: *http://parliament of india.nic.in*. During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 40,197 pages of debates of Lok Sabha were put on Internet.

Constituent Assembly Debates

As Lok Sabha is the successor of the Constituent Assembly, it is the responsibility of Lok Sabha Secretariat to take care of the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly. The Editorial Branch of the Service is responsible for printing and publication of the Constituent Assembly Debates both in English and

Hindi. The last edition of the English version of the Constituent Assembly Debates having been sold out, order for its re-printing was given during the year 1997. 1000 copies of the Constituent Assembly Debates (English version) were got printed on demand from MPs, scholars and researchers.

Indexes to Lok Sabha Debates

Indexes to the English and Hindi versions of the debates are prepared with a view to facilitating quick and easy access to the official records of the business of the House. These are printed session-wise and consolidated after every five years (or earlier) synchronising with the term of the Lok Sabha.

Synopses of the proceedings of Lok Sabha

One of the most important documents being brought out simultaneously in Hindi and English by the Service is Synopsis of debate. It is a gist of important suggestions and points made by members during the debate in the House. This is the most popular publication of the Service which always remains in demand by the members during session days.

The Service also prepares Synopses of the proceedings of national and international Parliamentary Seminars and Conferences. During the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha 85 issues of Synopsis both English and Hindi versions comprising 3,976 pages were brought out.

Private Members' Bills, Parliamentary Papers, Amendments, Resolutions, etc.

This Service undertakes the drafting of Hindi version of Private Members Bills, amendments to Government Bills, Private Members' Bills-originally in Hindi and translation of Parliamentary Papers, *viz.* List of Business, Bulletin Part I & II, Cut Motions, Calling Attention Notices, Motions, Summons, Resolutions, Amendments to Motions on Addresses by President, Speeches of VIPs and other Miscellaneous items of work emanating from various branches of the Secretariat from English to Hindi and vice versa.

During the Eleventh Lok Sabha, the Service translated a total of 18,273 pages of material–186 Private Members' Bills involving 3,993 pages, Lists of Business (2,697 pages), Bulletins, Part I&II (6,306 pages) amendments, resolutions, notices under various rules, cut motions, etc. (5,277 pages).

Lok Sabha Questions

The Editorial and Translation Service has also arrangements for translation of Questions as well as notices of Questions received originally in Hindi into English. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha 22,954 notices of questions were translated from Hindi to English. Besides, 26,860 Starred/Unstarred/Short Notice Questions were also translated.

Reports of Parliamentary Committees

At present, the Service has four Translation (Committee) branches. These Branches provide translation of Reports, Minutes, memoranda, Agenda papers, List of Points, Questionnaires, etc. of Parliamentary, Financial and Departmentally Related Standing Committees. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha various Committee reports involving 36,014 pages were translated. Besides, 42,311 pages of miscellaneous items of work connected with the Committee meetings were also translated.

Parliamentary Publications

This Service renders translation of various publications, Bio-Data, Profiles, Monographs, Information folders, Speeches of Speaker/V.I.Ps, write-ups for exhibitions, List of Members, Booklets, Who's Who from English to Hindi and vice-versa. Besides, miscellaneous items of work, *viz.* Letters, Gazette Notifications, Memos, Circulars received from the offices of Speaker/Deputy Speaker/Secretary-General and other branches are also translated. As many as 4,123 pages of parliamentary publications involving monographs, brochures, publicity folders, profiles, speeches, etc. were translated during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Unparliamentary Expressions

'Unparliamentary Expressions' is a unique publication of Lok Sabha Secretariat. Editorial Branch of the Service brings out the Hindi version of its annual as well as quinquennial issues. The words and expressions declared unparliamentary in the Lok Sabha and State Legislatures in India as also the words and expressions disallowed in the Commonwealth Parliaments on the grounds of being unparliamentary form part of the subject matter of this publication. Annual issues pertaining to the year 1996,1997,1998 and quinquennial issue (1995) were brought out during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Rajbhasha Prabhag

The Lok Sabha Secretariat has been making pioneering efforts for progressive use of Hindi for official purposes. In May 1957, it brought out a Glossary of about 26,000 parliamentary, legal and administrative terms with their Hindi equivalents. In view of the statutory provisions regarding progressive use of Hindi in official working and increasing demand from members of Parliament to make various parliamentary publications and research and reference literature available to them in Hindi also, a small nucleus of Hindi Unit under the Library and Research, Reference, Documentation, Information Service was created in April 1975 for bringing out **'Sansadiya Patrika'** originally prepared in Hindi and meeting the reference inquiries in Hindi from members. This Hindi Unit was subsequently named as 'Rajbhasha Prabhag' and placed under the Editorial and Translation Service in 1984. Over the year its functions and responsibilities have increased manifold in the direction of implementation of constitutional directive for gradual change over to Hindi as official language. Presently the Prabhag is engaged in the following items of work.

(a) Periodicals:

(i) **Sansadiya Patrika:** This informative and valuable periodical is being published quarterly and contains, mainly original contributions on Constitutional and parliamentary subjects in Hindi. It also serves as an authentic recorder of practices and procedures that are continuously being evolved in Indian and foreign legislatures as also of important parliamentary events and activities occurring at home and abroad. Besides, it provides ample opportunities to the legislators and other scholars to express their views on parliamentary matters through articles, write-ups, etc. During the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha, 5 issues of the periodical were brought out by the Prabhag.

(ii) **Samachar Manjusha:** It is a monthly digest of important news summarised from various national and regional Hindi newspapers and periodicals. Its main aim is to keep the legislators abreast of the important events reported at home and abroad in the recent past. Fifteen issues of the periodical were brought out during the term of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

(iii) **Saransh Seva:** This quarterly periodical contains abstracts of important books, reports and articles published mainly in Hindi. The abstracts are prepared in such a way that originality of the subject matter and ideas of the writer remain intact. The Prabhag brought out 5 issues of Saransh Seva during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

(iv) **Kendriya Adhiniyam Sar:** This quarterly periodical contains synopses of all the Bills passed by both the Houses of Parliament and assented to by the President during the particular quarter. The main purpose of the periodical is to provide gists of the latest Central Acts to the members and other readers. 4 issues of the Publication were brought out during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

(v) **Sarkari Upkram–Samachar Aur Abhimat Sar:** It is a monthly periodical which contains summaries of news and comments appearing in prominent Hindi newspapers and periodicals about the performance of public undertakings. It also contains gists of important recommendations made by the parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings. In all 16 issues of the publications were brought out during the tenure of the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

(b) Preparation of draft Scripts:

Apart from the publication of the periodicals mentioned above, an important job of drafting the messages, articles, speeches and radio talks/TV interviews in Hindi for the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary-General is also undertaken by the Rajbhasha Prabhag.

(c) Hindi Training for MPs and Officers of the Secretariat:

The Rajbhasha Prabhag has also been assigned the job of promoting use of Hindi in official work and monitoring its progress in this direction. The Prabhag associates itself with the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training which conducts various Hindi Training programmes for non-Hindi knowing M.Ps and Officers/ Staff of the Secretariat.

The Rajbhasha Prabhag also participates in Seminars/Training Programmes/Exhibitions. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, officers of the Service participated in the **Akhil Bharatiya Rajbhasha Sammelan** at Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) from 2 to 4 October 1998.

15

SALE OF PARLIAMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

With a view to meeting the demands of members of Parliament, Government Departments/Ministries and the general public for parliamentary publications brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, Sales Counter functions at the Reception Office of Parliament House. Sale across the Sales Counter to Customers (Government or private individuals) is strictly against cash payments. Requests from outstation customers, other than Government Departments/Ministries, for the supply of parliamentary publications are complied with on receipt of their cost and postage in advance. Sale of parliamentary publications by VPP is confined only to Government Departments/Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings at outstations and the postal expenditure incurred thereon is borne by the customers themselves. For an order for supply of publications within the country, valued at Rs. 100.00 and above, postal charges are borne by the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

For all publications required to be sent abroad by air mail, actual postage is to be paid by the customers. The requests for the supply of parliamentary publications and papers from customers in foreign countries are also complied with on receipt of a bank draft/cheque drawn on the Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi in favour of Under Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi, for the amount covering the price of the publications as well as the postage likely to be incurred on their despatch. Payment is also accepted by foreign money order or British Postal Order.

Sale against Deposit Accounts: Customers (Government or private individuals) who desire to be on the regular mailing list for any parliamentary publication are required to deposit a certain sum of money (Rs. 500/- only) in advance. With this amount, a Deposit Account is opened in the name of the individual/party and publications are sent by Registered Post, as and when received for sale. The cost of the publications and postage incurred thereon are debited against their Deposit Account. Publications are also supplied by ordinary book-post, at their risk, if the customers so desire. The Deposit Account is required to be replenished when it is near exhaustion.

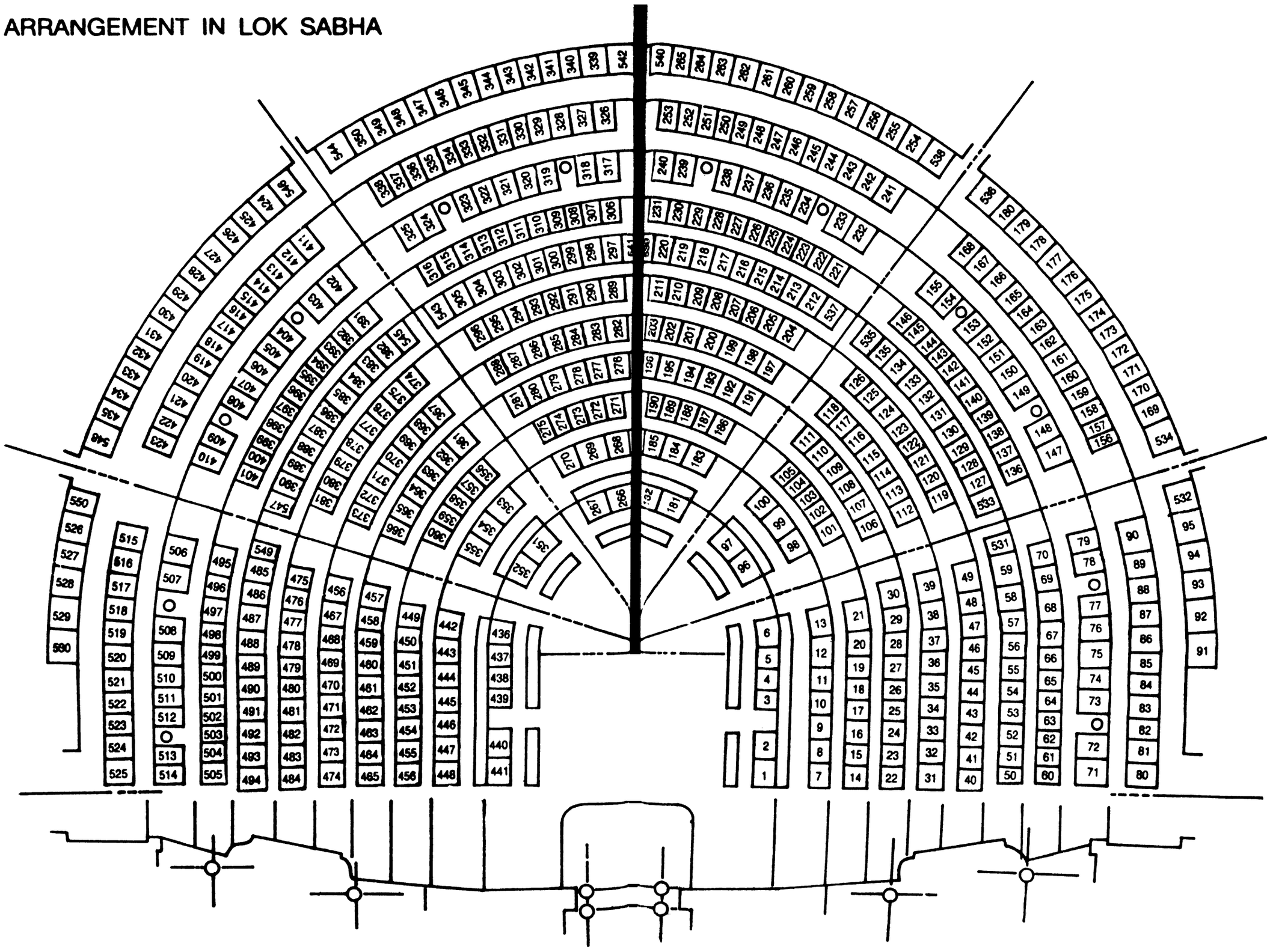
For the convenience of customers, booksellers of repute have been appointed Agents in various States for the sale of parliamentary publications. A catalogue of parliamentary publications is available for Rs. 3.00 and can be had from the Sales Section, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi, on specific request.

Details of the sale of parliamentary publications, papers and Budget sets during the Twelfth Lok Sabha are given below:—

STATEMENT 56

Sale of Parliamentary Publications/Papers and Budget Sets during the Twelfth Lok Sabha

Year	Parliamentary Publications/ Papers/Periodicals, etc.	No. of Copies sold	Total Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1998 (January-December)	Publications	3989	
	Periodicals	370	5.05
	Parliamentary papers	8938	
	Budget Sets	2985	11.94
1999 (January-April)	Publications	2846	
	Periodicals	120	2.38
	Parliamentary papers	2164	
	Budget Sets	2947	13.26

APPENDIX

SEATING ARRANGEMENT IN LOK SABHA